

U.S. Banks Lower Prime Interest Rate As Growth Slows

By Lawrence Malkin
International Herald Tribune

NEW YORK — Led by a bank in the Midwest that saw the U.S. economy softening, major American banks cut their prime lending rates on Monday.

First National Bank of Chicago initiated the long-awaited downward move in commercial interest rates, trimming its bellwether rate from 10.5 percent to 10 percent after a meeting on Monday morning of its management committee.

Within an hour, First Chicago was followed by major money-center banks in New York: Citicorp, the largest U.S. bank, and then Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. and Bankers Trust Co., which specialize in wholesale banking for commercial customers. Other major banks followed the move.

The New York Stock Exchange closed sharply higher, rising 21.12 points to close at 2,794.37. Traders said the prime increase may have been a factor even though the move had been widely expected.

The dollar's downward slide against the Deutsche mark accelerated. The U.S. currency closed in New York at 1.6675 DM, down more than 2 pfennig from the Friday close of 1.6905 DM.

Long-term U.S. bond prices were mostly lower, but the market had little reaction to the cut in the prime.

Mixed signals from the Federal Reserve, the U.S. central bank, about easing credit had made banks reluctant to cut interest rates. Last week yields on 30-year

U.S. Treasury bonds suddenly picked up almost a tenth of a percentage point after moving down for several months and there was little sign of weakening in short-term rates. So why now?

"We met this morning and looked around at the world," explained David Annable, First Chicago's chief economist. "We saw a generally flat fourth quarter or maybe even negative growth in the U.S. economy. We saw cutbacks in the auto industry, and we saw weakness in several components of demand including inventories."

"We also believe that the Fed will continue to cut rates, and if you believe that, then you have to cut the prime."

The New York banks declined comment, but in the past few months the cost of money to all major banks has declined, and most analysts believed it was only a matter of time before they lowered rates or lost their major corporate customers to the short-term credit market or elsewhere.

"Loan demand is weak, and the banks finally decided they want more business," said Richard V. Berner, senior economist at Salomon Brothers.

Mr. Annable pointed to widening spreads between what the bank pays for money and the rate at which it offers credit, which was about 200 to 225 basis points before the prime rate was cut. In other words, the prime rate was 2 to 2.25

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Needy Romanians waiting outside a church on Monday for a priest to distribute food and other supplies in Bucharest.

Trials Start for Securitate

Military Courts Proceed Against Romanian Police

By David Binder
New York Times Service

BUCHAREST — The provisional government announced Monday that special military courts had begun proceedings against members of the state security forces who were caught shooting at civilians after the fall of President Nicolae Ceausescu on Dec. 22.

The first such trial opened in Sibiu, in central Transylvania, where Mr. Ceausescu's son, Nicu, 39, was the district party chief. He was apprehended while trying to escape and is being interrogated, but he has not yet been charged.

A militia major was sentenced to nine years for attempted murder, Agence France-Presse reported, citing sources. The militiaman was

The Timisoara pastor whose harassment led to the Romanian revolt is reported in danger. Page 6.

accused of shooting at five army officers, wounding one.

[Silviu Brucan, a senior member of the provisional government, told Agence France-Presse that Nicu Ceausescu would not be a defendant during the initial trials.]

The announcement was made by Aurel Drogos Munteanu, chief spokesman of the provisional National Salvation Committee government that has replaced the Ceausescu dictatorship.

Mr. Munteanu, who is also director of the Romanian radio and television networks, said the Sibiu trial was open to the press.

Nicolae Ceausescu and his wife, Elena, were taken before a military tribunal last month, but in secret. They were sentenced to death and executed immediately, after a Mr. Munteanu said that the provisional government had abolished the death sentence, so that the highest penalty facing a security policeman would be life in prison.

It appeared that military tribunals had entirely replaced civilian courts in dealing with alleged crimes committed during the popular uprising against Mr. Ceausescu. "We are at the very beginning of restoring a legal frame in society," said Mr. Munteanu, speaking in English. Further military trials of members of the Ceausescu secret police, the Securitate, would be held this week in the capital and other cities where civilians were shot, he said.

The government is still unable to

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In Leipzig, Protesters Fear Resurgence of Communist Power

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

LEIPZIG, East Germany — About 100,000 people demonstrated Monday in the city that started East Germany's movement for change, protesting abuses of power by the governing Communist Party and calling for a reunited Germany.

Speakers at the rally said they feared a resurgence of Communist power and believed that the secret police, officially disbanded last month, were still active.

The same fears were manifested earlier in the day in East Berlin as Communist officials and opposition leaders continued roundtable discussions. The opposition groups demanded evidence that the security police, or Stasi, were being completely unrooted.

Markus Meckel of the Social Democratic opposition group said patience was running out.

"It will last until next week's meeting," he said, "but if we can't get answers to questions then, we

will call the country out onto the streets."

Peter Koch, the government official supervising the dissolution of the Stasi, said that all units had been disbanded, networks of informers dissolved and files sealed. He said 25,000 employees had been dismissed but acknowledged that 60,000 were still on the payroll.

"We are only at the beginning of the process of disbanding," he said. Opposition leaders scorned the report, calling Mr. Koch naive in trusting information supplied by security officials.

"We are not dealing with a girls' boarding school," said Rolf Henrich, of the largest opposition group, New Forum.

Weekly protests in Leipzig last year were crucial in the downfall of the Stasi leader, Erich Honecker, and in eliciting the promise of free elections, scheduled in May. Monday was the first demonstration of 1990.

About 100,000 persons gathered

in the southern city's main square, Karl Marx Platz, hundreds of them chanting the rallying call for reunification: "Germany — A Single Fatherland."

The Communists oppose reunification, proposing to maintain two independent German states with closer economic and social ties.

The rally was more peaceful than some last year in which marchers clashed over the reunification issue.

Many people believed the Communist Party was spreading fear of neo-Nazi attacks as an excuse to increase its power and to keep members of the Stasi active.

"Among those who stirred up

East Germans Bar Rightist

Reuters

BONN — East German border guards on Monday turned away West Germany's most prominent rightist politician, citing "fascist activities," his party said.

Franz Schönhuber, a former Waffen SS officer and leader of the far-right Republican Party, tried to enter East Berlin on his diplomatic passport as a member of the European Parliament, the party said.

"This step is scandalous and the charge is absurd," said Mr. Schönhuber from his Munich headquarters.

The East German Communist Party has begun a campaign against neo-Nazi activity, which critics say is exaggerated to fan fears of disorder.

Crowe Urges Talks on Reducing Naval Weapons

By R. Jeffrey Smith
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The United States should consider negotiating with the Soviet Union to eliminate tactical nuclear weapons from surface warships and submarines, or to reduce its naval forces in exchange for major Soviet concessions on strategic arms disputes, according to Admiral William J. Crowe Jr., the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff from 1985 until his retirement in September.

Admiral Crowe's opinion is at odds with the longstanding position of navy leaders and the Bush administration. But such negotiations would involve the United

States in a bargaining session of great interest to the Soviet Union, which has stated it is eager to curb the overwhelming U.S. advantage in warships and naval nuclear weapons.

"If some naval reductions can get us more than they're worth, we ought to be willing to consider talking" with the Soviets, the Admiral Crowe said during a wide-ranging interview at the Pentagon office he temporarily retains.

"My view of the whole bloody mess," he said, "is that there shouldn't be anything sacrosanct" from potential negotiated reductions as long as the United States is willing to say "no" if it does not get what it wants.

During the recent summit meeting in Malta, President Mikhail S. Gorbachev of the Soviet Union proposed specific negotiations to eliminate tactical nuclear weapons from all U.S. and Soviet surface vessels. He also maintained that it is wrong to exempt naval arms from the overall U.S.-Soviet military reductions now being contemplated, covering strategic, chemical, and conventional forces.

But President George Bush, concurring with the Pentagon position, told Mr. Gorbachev he opposed superpower negotiations on naval arms on the grounds that the current U.S. advantage is needed to support far-flung commitments to U.S. allies. "Even entertaining such

ideas would serve to undermine the fundamental and simple premise of freedom of the seas for all nations," said Admiral Carlisle A. H. Trosi, the chief of naval operations, in a typical speech last month.

Admiral Crowe said, however, that a potential ban on tactical nuclear arms at sea should be of particular interest to the navy because it could help ensure the survivability of U.S. aircraft carriers.

"The only thing in the world that can sink an aircraft carrier is a nuclear weapon. In fact, we've played a lot of war games involving nuclear weapons at sea and we never come out very well," he said. "I would argue that to protect our

carrier force, you shouldn't freeze your mind on this subject."

The 65-year-old retired admiral, a genial but occasionally blunt man who lobbied vigorously for increased military spending during the Reagan administration, said he now believed the Pentagon must adopt a pragmatic view of future weapon requirements due to a reduced Soviet military threat and growing pressures to divert military funds to other programs.

Admiral Crowe said that, in coming years, the defense budget may be reduced after adjustment for inflation by as much as one-fifth. Current spending of \$302.9

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Tamil Guerrilla Army Nears Goal in Sri Lanka

By Barbara Crossette
New York Times Service

COLOMBO — In a turnaround that is only beginning to be faith-filled in a country at war with itself for more than a decade, a Tamil guerrilla army pounded by the Sri Lankan military and hunted down by Indian troops is closer than ever to its goal: domination of the Sri Lankan northeast, the homeland of the Tamil-speaking people.

The guerrillas of the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, who registered recently as a legal political party in Sri Lanka, are gradually retaking territory across the country's north and east from which they had been driven by Sri Lankan or Indian troops.

The Sri Lankan president, Ranasinghe Premadasa, is by most accounts gambling that since the Tigers are now cooperating with him, they will not turn again on his government when Indian troops leave.

The Colombo government also is hoping that the Tamil militants, who still profess to favor an inde-

pendent Tamil nation, will not begin a new wave of attacks on Sinhalese and Muslims in the areas they control.

In his first year of office, Mr. Premadasa has succeeded, at the cost of at least 8,500 lives, in blunting if not putting down a violent rebellion in the south by the People's Liberation Front, drawn from the ethnic Sinhalese majority. The Sinhalese, who make up three quarters of Sri Lanka's 16 million people, are predominantly Buddhist, while most Tamils are Hindu.

Mr. Premadasa cannot afford to rekindle a revolt among the Sinhalese, his own people, by appearing to make concessions to Tamil militants or to the widely despised Indian forces, whose arrival in 1987 injected new life into the People's Liberation Front.

But Colombo will almost certainly have to hold another election in Northeast Province. Many view its local government, which took office in November 1988, as having

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Murder Mystery Grips Boston

Nexus of Evil Shifts From the Ghetto to the Suburbs

By Jim Naughton
Washington Post Service

REVERE, Massachusetts — The investigators on the Dixie Bridge stare into the Pines River as though they were expecting an answer to emerge from its waters. There are about 20 of them, peering down at low tide, as rubber-suited divers night from patrol boats and plunge toward a bottom that has yielded a headbag, but has not yet given them the gun.

Their vigil has become a staple on the evening news in these parts, along with Charles and Carol Stuart's wedding portrait, photos of the couple's slate-blue suburban home and the scene outside a Boston housing project last October. Rescue workers arrived that night to find Carol Stuart seven months pregnant and soon to be dead, slumped in the passenger seat of the couple's car with a bullet in her head, and Charles behind the wheel with a wound to the abdomen.

Until last week, almost everyone in the Boston area felt personally involved in the murders of Carol

Stuart and Christopher, her prematurely delivered son.

But Thursday morning, after learning that he had become the prime suspect in the case, Charles Stuart, 29, leaped to his death, leaving a confused community.

The alarming story of a white couple terrorized by a black man was reduced to the level of domestic intrigue, yet the city could take no comfort in that because it had believed so deeply in the wrong person and expended such passion on the wrong narrative.

When Mr. Stuart's body plunged into the Mystic River below the Tobin Bridge, the nexus of evil in this case shifted from a primarily black housing project in the Mission Hill neighborhood to a split-level in a middle-class suburb.

With it shifted the burden of guilt, passed from the black community onto the white, not merely because so many people were willing to take Mr. Stuart's word over that of a black ex-convict named Willie Bennett, but because the zealous police investigation engendered a fury in Mission Hill that is probably yet to play itself out.

This is how the events were supposed to have happened:

Carol and Charles Stuart left a Lamaze class at Brigham and Women's Hospital at about 8:30 on the night of Oct. 23 and pulled up to a stoplight at the corner of Huntington Avenue and Francis Street, a busy intersection in Mission Hill.

As they sat at the light, a black man wearing a black sweat suit with red stripes, black open-knuckled gloves and a baseball cap jumped into the back seat of their car, pulled out a snub-nosed pistol and demanded, in a raspy singsong voice, that Mr. Stuart drive to an isolated corner beyond the housing project. There, the assailant took Mrs. Stuart's Gucci bag, her rings, \$100 and the car keys.

He asked for Mr. Stuart's wallet, and when Mr. Stuart could not produce one, the man became suspicious. Thinking that Mr. Stuart's wallet contained the badge of an undercover cop, he said, "I think

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Massachusetts State Police divers lifting the body of Charles Stuart from the Mystic River in Boston.

France Helps Africans Upgrade Airport Security

The Associated Press

BRAZZAVILLE, Congo — France is to provide \$5 million worth of bomb detection equipment to airports in capitals of 20 of its former African colonies, French diplomatic sources said Monday.

In most of the airports, baggage searches now are carried out by hand.

Strengthening security is designed to prevent a catastrophe such as the explosion of a Paris-bound French airliner over Niger on Sept. 19. All 171 people on board were killed.

French investigators have de-

termined that a bomb was placed aboard the UTA flight, which originated in Brazzaville and stopped in Chad before the accident.

The diplomatic sources said the United States had indicated its willingness to help upgrade security at African airports.

Since the UTA bombing, security has been tightened at many African airports.

In Brazzaville recently, a foreign delegation led by a vice minister was refused access to an airliner because they refused to submit their luggage to a hand search.

El Salvador President Links Some in Military To Murder of 6 Jesuits

By Douglas Farah

Washington Post Service

SAN SALVADOR — President Alfredo Cristiani has announced that members of the military were responsible for the Nov. 16 killing of six Jesuit priests and that he had formed a special commission to make sure that everyone involved was brought to justice.

"We want to tell the Salvadoran people, especially the religious community, that the investigations carried out by the Special Investigative Unit have been serious and professional," Mr. Cristiani said in a nationally broadcast speech. "Based on those investigations, we have determined that there was involvement of some members of the military in the crime."

The White House spokesman, Martin Fitzwater, praised the Salvadoran investigation and hailed the "great courage" of Mr. Cristiani. The Associated Press reported: "We asked the investigation be thorough and the prosecution move ahead and it looks like that's the course he is on," said Mr. Fitzwater, who was traveling with President George Bush aboard Air Force One to Florida.

In Rome, the Jesuit order welcomed Mr. Cristiani's statement, Reuters reported. "Yes, it does confirm our suspicion," said the Reverend Johannes Gerhardt, a member of the Society of Jesus headquarters. "Our people in El Salvador are pleased with the unexpected seriousness of the investigations."

Colonel René Emilio Ponce, military chief of staff, said by phone that 45 members of a U.S.-trained special battalion, including two lieutenants, were being held at a military garrison in the capital, but that none had been formally charged in the killings.

Colonel Ponce said the Special Investigative Unit, a U.S.-funded investigative body founded in 1984 to help solve the nation's major crimes, had asked that the battalion be confined to the base.

Mr. Cristiani said that "to determine the exact circumstances and

clarify the crime in all aspects and because the armed forces will not allow any members of the institution to stain its professionalism and morale, we have created a special honor commission with officers of different ranks and civilian lawyers so that, with the support of the investigative unit, they can find those responsible for the crime and bring justice."

The assassinations of the Jesuits, along with a housekeeper and her daughter, were the first killings of church people in El Salvador since the March 1980 killing of Archbishop Oscar Arnulfo Romero and the murder of three American nuns and a lay worker in December of that year.

Among the Jesuits killed were Ignacio Ellauria, rector of the University of Central America, and Ignacio Martin-Baro, the school's vice rector.

Congress has scheduled hearings on El Salvador to begin Jan. 24, and U.S. Ambassador William J. Walker has said that if progress were not made on finding those responsible for the murders, the bipartisan consensus that allowed aid of \$500-million a year to flow to El Salvador would be endangered.

Despite known links between the military and rightist death squads responsible for tens of thousands of killings in the 1980s, no military officer ever has been tried for human-rights abuses.

Talks May Be Renewed

Bishop Gregorio Rosa Chávez said the Salvadoran government and rebels may be headed toward renewed peace talks, United Press International reported from San Salvador.

He said, "Our latest private conversations with leaders of the government and the FMLN indicate that a possibility of moving down that path."

Talks were interrupted after the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front, or FMLN, launched an offensive against San Salvador in November. It was the most intense to date in the guerrilla war.



Panamanians passing the time at a U.S. detention camp. The American military has rounded up suspected members of General Noriega's Dignity Battalions, hundreds of whom remain in custody.

Quayle Says He Won't Apologize Over Panama During Latin Visits

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

CLEVELAND — Vice President Dan Quayle, leading a U.S. effort to repair a rift with Latin America over the invasion of Panama, said Monday that he would offer no apology to regional leaders for "the liberation of Panama."

Mr. Quayle is to begin the first of two diplomatic missions to Latin America when he attends a presidential inauguration ceremony on Jan. 27 in Honduras. A more extensive trip will be undertaken in February, but no dates have been set.

"I'm not going there in a defensive posture," Mr. Quayle said. "I'm going to talk about the liberation of Panama."

President George Bush acknowledged Friday that the invasion has rekindled fears in Latin America of a U.S. leadership willing to use force freely to get its way in the region. He has given Mr. Quayle the task of explaining the U.S. position to regional leaders.

Mr. Quayle said Monday: "There are those who have criticized the president's decision as an illegitimate exercise in grandiose diplomacy. The critics are wrong. In fact, what was accomplished in Panama was the liberation of the Panamanian people."

One of the stated purposes of the

U.S. invasion was to bring Manuel Antonio Noriega to the United States to face drug-trafficking and corruption charges, and new reports of Mr. Noriega's dealings continued to surface Monday.

An official of the new Panamanian government said that more than 40,000 foreigners, including Cubans, Chinese and Libyans, had paid up to \$10,000 each to the Noriega regime for visas, passports and residency cards.

Jose Chen Barria, the new Panamanian director of immigration and naturalization, said the "substantial and million-dollar" operation had involved high-level civilian and military officials.

In an effort to seize what it says were the profits Mr. Noriega and his family gained illegally through drug connections and corruption, Washington has asked several European countries to freeze millions of dollars held in bank accounts. Luxembourg and Austria followed three other countries Monday in saying that they would comply.

Meanwhile, a dispute over civilian casualties in the U.S. operation continued.

The Reverend Jesse L. Jackson, a candidate for the 1988 Democratic presidential nomination, asserted Monday in Washington that the

civilian death toll was higher than officials had said. More people were killed inside Panama City than in China, he said.

"We also killed more than 1,200 civilians in Panama," Mr. Jackson said on U.S. television. "They buried people in mass graves."

The Chinese put down a student demonstration in Beijing in June, and some accounts say that hundreds, perhaps thousands, of protesters died. No final toll has been released by the Chinese government.

Mr. Jackson offered no source for his numbers.

The U.S. Army has said that 23 U.S. soldiers and about 300 Panamanian soldiers were killed. It has estimated that 230 civilians died.

(Reuters, UPI, AP, AFP)

In Panama, Hype or Heroics?

Reports Cast Doubt on Female Officer's Combat Role

By Philip Shabecoff

New York Times Service

WASHINGTON — Amid conflicting accounts of a battle in Panama in which U.S. troops were commanded by a female officer, a U.S. Army spokesman in Panama City said female officers had been forbidden to give interviews to reporters.

News accounts last week said that Captain Linda L. Bray had led a military police unit in a fiercely resisted assault on a guard-dog kennel in Panama City.

The accounts described the fight as the first time a woman had led U.S. troops in battle. They also said that three Panamanian soldiers had been killed in the successful attack.

The White House spokesman, Martin Fitzwater, praised Captain Bray's reported exploits.

Some commentators said the episode proved that women should be permitted to join military combat units like the infantry and artillery. Defense Department policy now excludes women from such units.

After Mr. Fitzwater's comment, the report on Captain Bray received wide coverage in newspapers and on television.

On Saturday, the Los Angeles Times ran an article from Washington, quoting army officials as saying that Captain Bray's exploits had been "grossly exaggerated" by the media. It also said army officials knew of no Panamanian soldiers killed in the fight.

On Sunday, an army spokesman in Panama, Colonel James L. Swank, said that Captain Bray "and all other female officers are currently unavailable for comment until authorized by the secretary of the army."

But Brigadier General Charles W. McClain, the army's deputy chief of public affairs, said in Washington that he knew of no instruction from the Pentagon prohibiting female soldiers in Panama from talking to the press.

He said he knew of no reason for the ban but added that the U.S. commanders in Panama "may have an operational consideration they have to take into account."

A Pentagon spokeswoman, Major Kathy Wood, also said she did not know why female officers in Panama were not being allowed to



Captain Bray, whose combat role is being questioned.

talk to the press. Requests for interviews with Captain Bray and other female troops were being forwarded to Panama, she said.

News accounts last week said Captain Bray was the first woman to command U.S. troops in battle. Women are excluded from the traditional combat arms of the mil-

itary, like the infantry and artillery, but Captain Bray commanded a military police unit that was assigned to capture a National Defense Forces guard-dog kennel.

The news accounts described the battle at the kennel as fierce.

Mr. Fitzwater said Wednesday that the kennel had been "heavily defended" and that three Panama Defense Forces soldiers had been killed in the firefight.

"It was an important military operation," he said. "A woman led it, and she did an outstanding job." The reports stimulated wide discussion about the role of women in combat.

Representative Patricia Schroeder, Democrat of Colorado, chairman of the House Armed Services subcommittee on military installations, said that Captain Bray's actions showed that women should be allowed to carry out direct combat roles.

The Los Angeles Times article, however, quoted the army as having said that Captain Bray's combat exploits had been exaggerated.

It said the army acknowledged that the action at the kennel lasted only 10 minutes and that no Panamanian soldiers had been killed.

It quoted General McClain as having said that Captain Bray was a half mile (nearly a kilometer) away from the kennel when the action started.

General McClain said Saturday that he had spoken to Captain Bray, who told him she did not know where the reports about the three dead Panamanians had come from. But he said that the captain was in direct control of her unit throughout the operation.

Mr. Fitzwater said Sunday that he had taken the figures on the dead Panamanian soldiers from newspaper accounts.

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Noriega Was Paid by CIA To Keep Quiet, Book Says

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A new book asserts that the Central Intelligence Agency, under President George Bush's direction, began paying Manuel Antonio Noriega \$10,000 a year in 1976 to keep him quiet about U.S. wiretapping in Panama.

The book by Frederick Kamp, "Divorcing the Dictator," said the payments were made even after Mr. Noriega helped U.S. officials to obtain secret intelligence tapes and was linked to bombings aimed at U.S. targets.

Mr. Noriega had been ordered to "sit tight" by the Panamanian leader at the time, General Omar Torrijos Herrera, who hoped to pressure the United States to speed talks on handing over the Panama Canal, according to the book. Excerpts from the book were printed in the Jan. 15 issue of Newsweek magazine.

At the same time, Mr. Noriega discovered an extensive U.S. wiretapping operation in Panama and bribed U.S. officials to hand over copies of intelligence tapes, the book said.

When the affair came to light, Low Allen Jr., then head of the National Security Agency, wanted to send a message to other would-be traitors by prosecuting Mr. Noriega and others. "But CIA director Bush balked," the book said.

U.S. Wants Bogotá to Permit a Naval Drug Force

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WASHINGTON — Despite rising protests in Bogotá, U.S. officials said Monday that Washington wanted to go ahead and station five warships about 100 miles (160 kilometers) off Colombia to help stem the flow of illegal drugs.

But the State Department said no decision had been made and that Washington would not act without the concurrence of the Colombian government.

Defense officials said that the aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy and the nuclear-powered cruiser Virginia were headed to Caribbean waters off Colombia, where they would be joined by three support ships. They said that E-2 radar

planes on the carrier could monitor traffic out of Colombia.

Colombia's foreign minister spoke sharply against the plan, and radio reports said he was being pressured to resign.

The White House spokesman, Martin Fitzwater, would say only that the U.S. ships were on maneuvers in the Atlantic. The State Department spokeswoman, Margaret D. Tutwiler, acknowledged that "we are considering the use of naval assets" to assist drug interdiction but said that "no decisions have been made."

"We've had some low-level discussions with the Colombians," she said, "but by no means have these consultations been completed." She said, "We are not consider-

ing a blockade, only the interdiction of drug traffickers. A blockade would mean shutting down everything, and that obviously is not our intention."

The government of President Virgilio Barco Vargas said Sunday it would not participate in joint maneuvers, and the Foreign Ministry said the country would not permit the interception of Colombian-flagged boats on the high seas, much less in territorial waters.

Radio Caracol reported Monday that Foreign Minister Julio Lombardo Paredes would resign because his criticisms of the U.S. plan and the invasion of Panama did not have full government backing. He told the newspaper El Espectador that Colombia would hold the

United States responsible for any violations of international law during anti-drug operations, should U.S. forces decide to intercept narcotics shipments.

"This will all be done in international waters, and a large part of it will be to keep track of where planes are taking off in Colombia and where they are going," a Bush administration official said Monday.

The navy would be in close contact with Colombian authorities, the U.S. Coast Guard and the Drug Enforcement Administration on suspicious traffic, another official said. "There is no, repeat no, plan for any of our planes to try and shoot down any suspicious aircraft," he said. (Reuters, UPI)

Terry-Thomas, English Comedian, Dies

The Associated Press

LONDON — Terry-Thomas, 78, the gap-toothed comedian who played the good-hearted cad in dozens of British and American films, died Monday of Parkinson's disease in Godalming, Surrey.

The star of films including "I'm All Right, Jack" and "It's a Mad Mad Mad Mad World," had battled the degenerative muscle disease since 1971 and was unable to work for several years. He had been too ill to attend a benefit in his honor in London last April.

His last film roles included "The Last Remake of Beau Geste" in 1977 and "The Hound of the Baskervilles" in 1978. In all, he played in 170 movies.

A cigarette holder, a well-brushed mustache and the gap between his upper front teeth were his signatures. He was often the upper-class cad in roles like that of Sir Percy in "Those Magnificent Men in Their Flying Machines."

He was born Thomas Terry-Henry Stevens and took his first two names for stage use until too many people thought he was related to Ellen Terry, the actress.

His career took off in 1956 with a role as a commanding officer in the film "Private's Progress."

He was so determined not to let his disease rule his life that on his 70th birthday in 1977 he tried to



Terry-Thomas, the English comic actor, displaying the smile with the trademark gap.

water-ski the Channel for charity, a promise he had made before he discovered he was ill. Accomplished at the sport, he got halfway across before high winds and waves tumbled him.

As a boy he stole the glass out of his father's watch to use as a monocle in his early impersonations of the nobility and gentry.

He was educated at a English public school where, barred from the dramatic society, he formed a ukulele jazz band.

Before embarking on an acting career, he worked as a meat porter, tried gambling and became a dancing teacher. (AP, UPI)

Ian Charleson, 40, British Film Actor

New York Times Service
Ian Charleson, 40, the actor who played the devout Scottish nunner competing in the 1924 Paris Olympics in the 1981 film "Chariots of Fire," died of AIDS on Saturday in London.

In "Chariots of Fire," he portrayed Eric Liddell, a Presbyterian missionary who refused to take part in the Games on the Sabbath. One of his teammates and a main competitor was an English Jew played by Ben Cross, furiously battling anti-Semitism. The movie won an Academy Award and a British Film Award for best picture.

In the last decade, Mr. Charleson also won praise for stage performances in London in Sam Shepard's "Fool for Love," Tennessee Williams's "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof" and "Hamlet," and in many plays on television, including Turgenev's "A Month in the Country," and in such films as "Gandhi" and "Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes."

Other deaths:
Margaret Kelly, 91, the mother of Princess Grace of Monaco and matriarch of the Irish-American family known for its accomplishments in athletics, politics, business and art, on Saturday of pneumonia in Linwood, New Jersey. Mrs. Kelly had suffered several strokes in recent years and was unaware of the death of her daughter, the former Grace Kelly, in 1982.

Clarke Taylor, 46, a New York correspondent for The Los Angeles Times who wrote film and television reviews, of AIDS on Friday in New York.

Herbert W. Briggs, 89, who taught political science and international law at Cornell for 40 years before his retirement in 1969, of cancer on Saturday in Ithaca, New York. He was the author of "The Law of Nations," a standard text.

Vladimir Ussachevsky, 78, who composed the first piece of electronic music heard in concert in the United States and who went on to lead the pioneering Columbia-Princeton Electronic Music Center, of a brain tumor on Thursday in New York.

Peter Cookson, 76, an actor, producer, and writer known for his 1947 stage portrayal of Morris Townsend, the philandering fortune hunter in "The Heiress," of bone cancer on Saturday in Southfield, Massachusetts.

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Other Comment

Tokyo Made the Right Move

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By Jim Hoagland

Gorbachev and His Vanguard Are Left Behind

By Michael A. Ledeen

PRINCETON, New Jersey —

Germany Is Already In Front.

By Hobart Rowen

Harari: Humans Aren't Free

WASHINGTON — "Harari is a partner of mine," said a former Israeli intelligence officer to a television interviewer. "I did not supervise forces. I did not organize them. I am simply a private person involved in business."

Because Mr. Harari said the strongman's "honorary" positions are widely distributed, he said, "There is no doubt that Noriega's right-hand man, in effect if Noriega laundered money also with his right hand."

sexual intervenors into month. Mr. Harari was arrest list. Despite an announcement of his capture home to Israel to denounce "terrorism" about his past. Much of his Mossad past heroic. He avenged the Munich victims at the Munich

Black September terrorists, including an innocent, untrained Idi Amin's Ugandan army, once the rescue of hostages, then he became the Mossad's Central America, harassing terrorists by Cuba and Nicaragua. In the mid-1980s, he ap-

The Israeli government following the zigs and zags in diplomacy in Central America, which swung from Noriega

—disclaimed all responsibility for the defiant dictatorship.

Who Paid the

The ultimate question, of course, was: For whom was Mr. Harari being held? Israel, the United States or himself? He was probably worried about none and no one.

—David Halvry and Neil C. commencing in The Wash


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OPINION

Harari: Former Operatives Aren't Free to Free-Lance

By William Safire

WASHINGTON — "Noriega is not a partner of mine," said Michael Harari, a former Israeli intelligence officer, to a television interviewer in Jerusalem. "I did not supervise or train his forces. I did not organize his personal guard. I am simply a private individual involved in business."

Because Mr. Harari served as the former strongman's "honorary consul," his statements are widely disbelieved. A leftist member of the Knesset last week said: "There is no doubt that Harari was Noriega's right-hand man, and we have to check if Noriega laundered drug money also with his right hand."

When the United States sent its consular intervenors into Panama last month, Mr. Harari was high on the arrest list. Despite an embassy announcement of his capture, he slipped home to Israel to denounce "disinformation" about his past.

Much of his Mossad past was surely heroic. He avenged the murder of Israeli athletes at the Munich Olympics by leading a hit team that killed a dozen Black September terrorists, unfortunately including an innocent Arab; he infiltrated Idi Amin's Uganda to advance the rescue of hostages at Entebbe; then he became the Mossad's key man in Central America, harassing aid to PLO terrorists by Cuba and Nicaragua.

In the mid-1980s, he apparently retired from espionage to go into business for himself. What does a former hit man, counterterrorist and clandestine border-crosser do for a living? We ought to be able to find out.

The Israeli government, dutifully following the zigs and zags of U.S. diplomacy in Central America — which swung from Noriega as paid CIA agent to Noriega as despised drug-runner — disclaimed all responsibility for Mike Harari's private actions in support of the defiant dictator.

The first issue: How much responsibility does a nation have for the acts of its nationals abroad? Every country has its wrongdoers; does the United States

Who Paid the Bills?

HOW did Mike Harari get out of Panama? His own version, outlined Friday night on Israeli television, suggests that he left only hours before the onset of the invasion. If so, who tipped him off? One U.S. official maintains that he was picked up by U.S. military forces in Panama and held for a day until his status was worked out between Washington and Jerusalem.

The ultimate question, of course, is: For whom was Mr. Harari really working — Israel, the United States, himself? He was probably working for everyone and no one.

— David Halvay and Neil C. Livingston, commenting in *The Washington Post*.

have to apologize for American racketeers abroad?

To an extent, yes. The obligation of the home country is to cooperate in the prosecution of its errant nationals, within human-rights limitations, especially when those nationals run home for cover. Should a U.S. grand jury want to interrogate Mr. Harari, or if a warrant is issued, the government of Israel is duty bound to help produce or apprehend him.

But what if the suspect is a kind of hero — an Olis North or a Rafi Eytan? What if he knows too much about national secrets, and if his arrest abroad might compromise the security sources of his country of origin?

Now we're in the gray area in which governments are so susceptible to gray-mail: Washington recently set a bad precedent by bowing to the threat of a CIA operative to reveal secrets in defending himself; suddenly, in the Noriega case, that weight of embarrassment seems not controlling. The Thornburgh criterion: Protecting national secrets is not as important as protecting native agents.

All nations with extensive intelligence services and anti-terrorist teams are faced with a growing menace of renegades and retirees — men trained to circumvent the local law, who are coming in from the cold to cash in on their experience.

The answer should be a tough-minded one taken from the organized underworld: You can never retire from the Service. Whatever you do after you leave must have the written approval of the government in which you served.

But don't even spies have rights? Fewer than other people. Those who choose the espionage life give up many of their freedoms, regularly permitting the most degrading searches of their brains and blood. They should be told at the start that their expertise is a public asset, never for sale without permission.

We have the analogy of the prizefighter. In law, a professional boxer's fists are considered weapons; that is one reason that real fighters avoid brawls. In the same way, many spies, hit men and special-forces specialists have been turned into weapons by their governments; the sales of surplus weapons are for governments to decide.

Both the United States and Israel are led by men who headed their state's intelligence arm. Israel, the object of unrelenting terrorist warfare, has been forced to train some of its citizens to carry out terrible work. Other democratic countries, too, have trained agents to do necessary work considered dirty.

Those so trained who are patriots will accept the lifelong responsibility to reflect only credit on their country. Those who turn adventurers and soldiers of misfortune deserve prosecution and the contempt of the service they disgrace.

— *The New York Times*.



At the Pentagon, a dreadful apparition . . .

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A Meeting With Havel

Seeing the photograph of Vaclav Havel and the article about his inauguration as president of Czechoslovakia on the front page of your Dec. 30 edition, I could not help but remember my last meeting with him 14 months ago.

We met clandestinely in a restaurant to discuss a play of his that I was to direct in New York. Mr. Havel showed up with a bulging brown briefcase. When I handed him the English translation of his play and he opened his briefcase, I noticed two rolls of toilet paper. "I don't know when they might pick me up," he explained, "and toilet paper is an absolute necessity in prison."

I will have to explain to my 10-month-old daughter, as she grows up, that fairy tales do indeed exist.

JACK GARFEIN,
Paris.

Old Habits in Romania

Recent events in Romania prove that old habits die hard. In the kangaroo court that convicted Nicolas Ceausescu (who deserved his punishment), the defense asked that he be condemned — for force. And a recent proclamation by the largest Romanian political party, which was suppressed in blood in 1947, the National Peasant Party, was denied publicity by the new government. The future is not so bright as it seems.

EMIL GHILEZAN,
Rome.

Before Talking to the PLO

Some time soon, charades, evasive action and shadowboxing will no longer be

proper substitutes for a foreign policy worthy of the state of Israel. What the present government is pleased to call its foreign policy will have to be replaced by something substantial and serious.

It may be useful, even now, to contemplate the following opening declaration, if and when the government of Israel decides on negotiations with the Palestine Liberation Organization:

• The PLO recognizes that the war of 1967 was an Arab war of aggression that the Arab side lost. It follows that, pending a peace treaty, the occupation of the territories conquered by Israel is legitimate under international law.

• The PLO will convene a special session of its congress in order to abrogate its constitution, which, in its present form, aims at the destruction of Israel, and to recognize Israel as a legitimate member of the United Nations.

If Israel requested such a declaration from the PLO, and if PLO complied, the way would be opened for fruitful negotiations without intermediaries.

BERTHOLD WYLER,
Jerusalem.

Women's Status in Japan

The Australian Financial Review, as quoted in "A Dawn for Japanese Women" (*Other Comment*, Sept. 20), errs in saying that "socially and legally, women have always been second-class citizens in Japan." Article 14 of the constitution guarantees that all people are equal under the law and that there shall be no discrimination in political, economic or social relations because of one's sex.

The item also says, "Until recently, opportunities for women outside the home were limited almost exclusively to part-time, poorly paid, assembly-line

work." This is wrong. Only about two-tenths of female employees are part-time workers. The wage for a female worker in her 20s who has graduated from high school is about 90 percent of the wage for males in the same category. And only two-tenths of female employees are production-process workers.

Another major error is the statement that "Japanese companies are legally able to pay low salaries to women for equal work." Wage discrimination between men and women is prohibited by Article 4 of the Labor Standard Law.

Nine out of 10 junior high school students, both male and female, go on to high school. Of all female graduates from four-year colleges and universities, 75.2 percent were employed in 1988.

Due to the rising educational level of women, coupled with the advancement of technical innovation, the fields of work for women are being widened. Equality between men and women in the workplace has come much closer since the enactment of the Equal Employment Opportunity Law in 1986.

On the whole, the role of women in Japanese society is becoming more important than ever.

YUKO TSUKAZAKI,
Women's Bureau,
Ministry of Labor, Tokyo.

Beakers Up, Madame

Perhaps what Marilyn Quayle (*People*, Dec. 21) was thinking of when she wrote "beakon" for "beacon" in her holiday message was a beaker of good old Christmas cheer, brimming with — well, whatever you fancy. Skool, Mrs. Quayle!

FRISILLA APPLEBY,
Intragna, Switzerland.

You'll Be Able to Hang Up Before You Even Answer

By Charles Krauthammer

WASHINGTON — The boys in the lab have come up with another great innovation, and as night follows day the technological reactionaries demand that we be spared its advantages. The innovation is Caller ID, a little magic by which whenever your phone rings, a device next to it flashes the number of the caller.

The opposition to this wonderful invention falls into two categories. First are the Luddites, people congen-

itally opposed to all that is new because it is new. They brood constantly about the somber underside of progress. Where you see a remote-controlled can opener with auto-reverse, they see a dark satanic mill. They like to remind you that the science that blessed us with the automatic card shuffler also brought us the atomic bomb. There is no hope for such people. Ignore them.

Harder to ignore is the other group that resists the dawning of the golden age of Caller ID. They are more annoying because, less weighted down by angst, they are more energetic and litigious. These are the civil libertarians. They first for your privacy.

They worry that when you call someone, you will be instantly, coercively identified. One local activist calls Caller ID a joint venture between C&P (the local phone company) and Big Brother. Another warns that Caller ID "compels the disclosure of personal information without the consent of the caller."

Well, yes: the caller's phone number. But to call that an invasion of privacy requires some gall. It is 8 P.M. You are tired. You are hungry. Your phone rings. Uninvited, someone has just barreled into your home, woken the baby, sent nerves jangling in five rooms, and is demanding, loudly, that you leave kush and kin and rush over to the phone — because he feels like talking to you, now. His privacy is being violated?

This bizarre concern for the privacy of — let's be frank — a vandal arises only because the current norms of telephone etiquette are entirely irrational. The telephone is the greatest instrument of aggression since the longbow. It is a crowbar in the door, a baseball through the window, a tank come crashing into the foyer. We permit violations of privacy by telephone that we would never dream of permitting by any other means.

Indeed, it is considered rude not to respond slavishly to the immediate demands of the phone. Hiding behind the answering machine and pretending to be out is thought to be bad form, a violation of democratic norms, as if anyone capable of punching seven digits in sequence merits your urgent attention. Which is why, when you do screen a call through the answering machine and pick

up while the caller is leaving a message, you feel obliged to lie. You say, "Sorry, just came in the door" instead of "Hi, I was screening and you passed the test."

Sissela Bok would not approve. The telephone, in fact, is the single greatest cause of lying in America. For the young it is a veritable school for mendacity. (Whenever my boy hears me lie "Mrs. Krauthammer is not home," he yells, "No, Dad, she's down in the studio" and we all pretend no one has heard a thing. He will learn soon enough.) After a lifetime of perjury, the lucky ones get to hire someone else, a secretary, to do their lying for them.

I call the president of Pullman Brush to complain about a defective product or salesman. The secretary tells me Mr. Wigglesworth is in a meeting. Twenty-four hours later I call back and he is still in a meeting. Four days later, he meets again. All this time both the secretary and I know that she has been lying to me. But because this is the telephone, this is O.K. Not only are we supposed to continue to thank her for her lying attention.

I suspect that in my grandfather's time there was resistance to the social ravages of the phone, but by now we have all been cowed into acquiescence. Caller ID will right the barbarism. Caller ID introduces reciprocity into phone etiquette, something that has been sorely lacking for a hundred years. You want to get into my house? Show your face, or at least your number. (I'll trace the face later.)

What about the whistle-blower who might be afraid of having his identity revealed? If he is true patriot, he will find a pay phone and regret that he has but 25 cents to give for his country.

What about the poor schmuck who orders a cookbook by phone, and risks a lifetime of automated calls and unwanted faxes as a result of having revealed himself to the telemarketer?

Two answers. One, don't order the cookbook. He who lives by telemarketing dies by it.

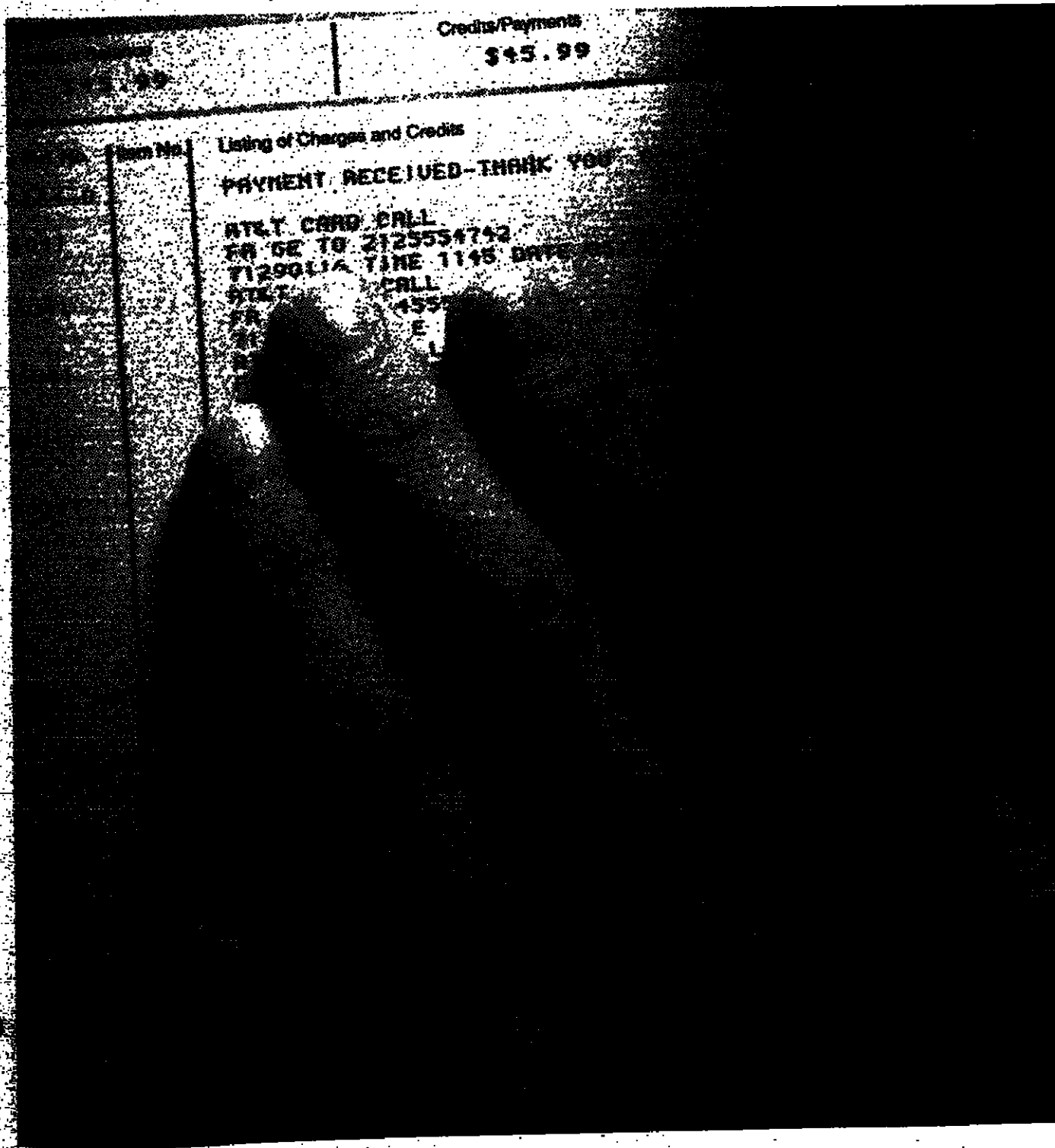
Two, if you must have that cookbook, get yourself a second line devoted exclusively to calling junk mailers, secret policemen and other dangerous types. Let that be the number by which the wicked know you. Then — this is key — never answer that line.

Me? I can't wait for Caller ID. In the meantime, this column should cut down on incoming calls.

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Quick! Who did you call on the night of May 25th?



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Style



Claude Montana (left) and his fashion sculptures, spiral chignon and sheer coat 1987, shearing with knit 1982 and sharp shoulders 1986.

Claude Montana, Sculpting '90s Couture

PARIS — "I was so frightened that I couldn't sleep the night before the first fittings," says Claude Montana. "Then I saw it coming toward me — a bubble coat with a

SUZY MENKES

hood, over pants, in pink and camel, and everything was fine." Montana unveils his first couture collection for Lanvin in two weeks. The show will be held with due pomp and ceremony in a tent pitched at the Ecole Militaire and will be the star attraction of the Paris couture season.

It is Montana's first work in haute couture — difficult to believe when recalling a decade of his fashion sculptures: the broad shoulders tapering into a defined waist; the hip-

and leathers lapping the body; the tough silhouettes made in silk and knit and supple shearing; accessories of exquisite detail from stitched suede gloves to spiraling chignons.

Last September, he finally decided to cross from super-luxury ready-to-wear into couture — head-hunted by Lanvin's president, Léon Bressler, to give a modern and dynamic image to the old established house. Montana's design philosophy remains constant.

"For this collection, I feel the need to return to my roots," he says. "Things are very pure, structured." — a pregnant pause — "aggressive. It is time for that again." Montana, just 40, has tow-blond hair, and cultivates a bad-boy, jeans-and-black-leather image, wearing a biker blossom as his business suit. He made his name 13 years ago as the founding father of big shoulders.

"Not signing a license for pads then was my big mistake," he says, remembering how the early clothes he designed for MacDouglas leather in Paris in the 1970s were offered to nervous American buyers with optional padding.

He started his fashion career in London in those swinging '60s, when his sculpted papier-mâché jewels were featured in Vogue. His first own-label line was in 1977, followed by menswear, and for both sexes Montana's powerful, raunchy, androgynous silhouette shaped the last decade.

Sensing that he might become typecast, and looking for a challenge, he abandoned the broad

shoulders three seasons ago and restructured his tailoring on a pyramid shape. The effect was still bold and uncompromising and his dramatic ready-to-wear shows are relished by fashion insiders.

"When I think about those hours and nights spent working on each show, inspecting everything so that there are no loose buttons or hanging threads, I see why others call

"Things are very pure, structured, aggressive. It is time for that again."

me a terrible perfectionist," he says. "But I can't use that word for myself, because I have never achieved perfection — and if I did, I would stop."

He is wearing leather pants, a beige blouson and a fondant pink sports shirt that adds a bolt of sudden sweetness. He is known for using a tender palette — apricot, terra-cotta, old rose and chestnut or sea changes of blue. He says that color is always the starting point. He focuses on a particular spectrum and then groups colors together from painted samples. He describes his studio as a "boudoir of fabric rolls."

"The colors for the couture collection are drawn from nature — from sand and from flowers," he says. "There are even silhouettes inspired

by flowers. Fabrics are crisp — faille and things that hold a shape. I like the use of glamorous evening fabrics for daytime."

Montana looks like an urban cowboy and his tough tailoring is most likely to be seen in sophisticated settings. Yet, in step with the current mood, he has just acquired a country place ("simple 17th-century brick in a beautiful park") near Chartres. There he is absorbed "discovering silence" and looking at trees.

A tree trunk carved in Togo, a fat-bellied 1930s vase ("bought in the flea market"), an architectural painting of pillars, and a sculpted metal torso, are objects picked out against a neutral background in his Paris apartment, on the Left Bank in the shadow of the Musée d'Orsay. It is lit entirely by candlelight ("daylight is for the summer") and by a few colored spotlights: blood red on a painting and electric blue on the marble fireplace. A painting of slatted blinds hangs on the passage wall to catch light glancing from the bedroom. Below it is a Bernard Buffet drawing of Christian Dior.

Montana was approached two years ago by Dior to take over as house designer. He ultimately refused, accepting Lanvin because it involves only couture, not the ready-to-wear lines. He relishes the new challenge.

"It's the feeling of freedom," he says. "The possibility that anything can be done. The contrast between ready-to-wear and the Lanvin couture studio is astounding. It is as

though the word 'no' has been eliminated from their vocabulary."

Lanvin's Bressler wanted a French designer with a modern mind and an international outlook. Montana is qualified on all counts. His designs have an architectural modernism and are never retrospective. His background is European: a German mother and Spanish father. (He has designed for a Spanish knitwear firm and for the Italian Complice label). He was born and brought up in Paris and says that he "feels French," but believes in internationalism. A searing childhood memory is of the contempt shown to his mother in postwar Alsace when she revealed a German passport.

His fast fashion friends are his sister Jacqueline, who works with him, and Kenzo Takada ("a most generous person whom I can talk to as a designer without thinking of us as competitors").

His fashion hero is Balenciaga, and he says that he "particularly pleased" to get the Prix Balenciaga in 1989.

Montana's work has a couture classicism but also a tribal fashion beauty: hoods haloing the head or collars ringing the neck. On the pinboard in his private workshop, the African head is a recurring symbol.

"Inspiration is a memory that you think of as it fades and returns," he says. "It can be something so subtle, an osmosis that makes things move. Sometimes you are not really in control of a collection. It happens in a state of grace."

STYLE MAKERS

Heavy Metal Humor
ANDREW "DICE" CLAY

PHILADELPHIA — Andrew "Dice" Clay is on a roll. He's strutting the stage at the Living Arts Theater in one of his hundred leather jackets. His hair is slicked back, his collar is up, his head is cocked. He draws deep on a cigarette — "You gotta problem wit dat?" — a standard goof that sets the tone for his belligerent humor. He's done his obscene nursery rhymes, his AIDS ciffs, and now he starts on immigrants, in a serrated Brooklyn cadence:

"These other people," he spits, and right away, the audience, mostly white, mostly male, mostly wanting to be as cool as Dice, knows where he's going.

"These — other people. I can't — they're like, not white. Not black. They're like — colored!"

The audience explodes. "I can't relate to them. They walk around with like, laundry on their heads..."

In stitches now, "And they don't know the language. I'm in a taxi. I ask the guy to take me to this theater, and he turns around with... dat small!"

"DICE DICE DICE!" they chant.

"And I think, what? ... Have you never — heard of soap?"

The crowd is on its feet. Dice continues, mimicking the little man's language, mocking his name, and now he heads for his topper: "Hey, they should have a sign at the airport. Look, if you don't know the language, stand, thrust fists into the air, and chants in unison with him: 'GET THE — OUT OF THE COUNTRY!'"

The crowd, looking and sounding increasingly Nurembergian, explodes.

And Andrew "Dice" Clay is only halfway through his set. He hasn't even gotten to "fat, ugly women."



Dice Clay, self-styled Lenny Bruce of the extreme right.

"slanty-eyed japs" or the hand-capped yet.

The "Dice" — as he is known among the faithful — is on a roll. He's just finished his first full-fledged 20-city tour, selling out 15,000 seats arenas in a matter of hours. It's been, according to Variety, "an unheard-of achievement."

In the last year, he released "The Dice" comic book, his exorcism of a successful HBO video special, "DICE," a record album which sold 450,000 copies, and starred in "Ford Fairlane," a movie expected to be one of next summer's blockbusters.

And he's done it the hard way, with almost no mainstream television or radio exposure, at first. When the slick magazines finally started to write about him, they called him a neo-Nazi, a sado-stand-up, a woman's worst nightmare (this last by Playboy). He's been banned for life from MTV for reciting his

infamous dirty nursery rhymes on a live video awards show.

Does he care? "Hey, every knock's a boost," says Dice, savoring the fact that he's finally big enough to be talked about.

When he began, more than 10 years ago, he wasn't even the Dice. He was just Andrew Silverstein, a Brooklyn Jewish comic doing bits about disco. He hadn't tapped into the bad boy comedy gold mine.

But of course, 10 years ago, no one had. When Andy Silverstein took the stage at 2 A.M. at Catch a Rising Star, where New York comics cut their teeth, it was taboo to bash women, or sneer at the Third World. On campus, where a lot of young comics made rent money, they'd chase you off stage for being less left than President Carter.

But that was at the dawn of the Reagan era. Then, as affirmative

action, abortion rights and safety nets came under attack, as liberalism withered, as AIDS struck, leftish sympathies became louche, and a strange thing happened: Suddenly, on stage, it was hip to be racist; it was cool to beat up on the old, the short, the obscure; from the mildly sarcastic humor of the reconstituted Saturday Night Live jokesters, to the yuppie snarkiness of David Letterman (whose idea of a hoot was to patronize a 51-year-old, five-foot-one Greek-American coffee delivery boy), to the whining aggressiveness of Howard Stern Jr., humor began to hurt. With filibustering, red-soaked, chain-smoking Morton Downey Jr., American TV comedy made a sharp right face; when stocking-capped Sam Kinsley, a sort of overweight, hysterical troll with a heavy metal audience (dim, macho, beer-guzzling, under 30), began doing S/M shtick, the stage was set for Dice.

The blunt edge became the cutting edge. Dice parlayed an HBO shot into an MTV shot and the word got out: "Dice" delivers! His fans, the kind you see having tailgate parties in the Giants Stadium parking lot in New Jersey, or throwing beer cans in smoldering fury at Dwight Gooden when he fails to fan three hitters in a row, began showing up in T-shirts that read, "Dice People — Proud of It." They mimicked his lines on the home: "Get the — away from me, you — bum!" On women: "Hey, I just — you. Now you want to talk? Tying and subduing went south. Wit turned to belch. And do the charges of demagoguery upset him?"

"Hey, people shouldn't take my material seriously. This guy Dice isn't for real. Like, I'm with the leather, the collar, the moves, the cigarette — but I'm not running for office. I'm a comedian, telling jokes. And if you don't like my act — don't listen!"

Warren Leight

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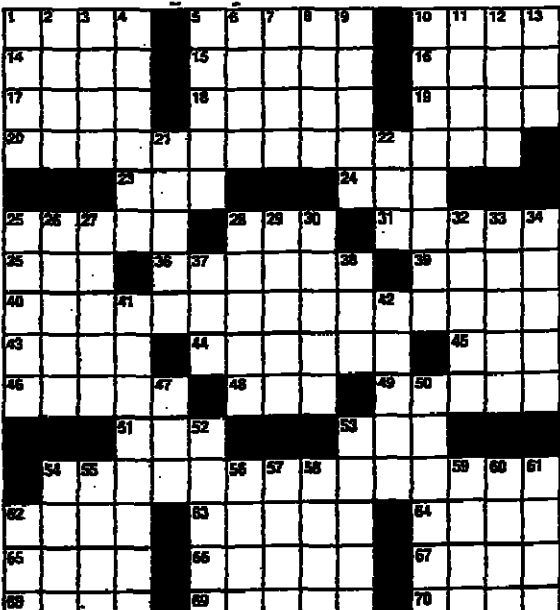
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ACROSS

- 1 Nucle
- 4 Sudden, violent effort
- 10 Grow tiresome
- 14 Soon
- 15 Spaghetti, e.g.
- 16 Margarine
- 17 Asterisk
- 18 Aquatic animal
- 19 Tidy
- 20 Blotch P.M.
- 21 1955-57
- 22 Neon or argon
- 24 Canonized women in Fr.
- 25 Bundled cotton
- 26 Lamb's cry
- 31 Some examinations
- 35 Wallach, actor from Brooklyn
- 36 Hanging piece of frozen water
- 39 Exude
- 40 Noted English navigator

DOWN

- 1 Food fish
- 2 Oppositionist
- 3 Sound at Shea
- 4 Madden
- 5 Detects
- 6 Trail
- 7 Concerning
- 8 British carbene
- 9 Astor and Martin
- 10 One who deliberates
- 11 Half position
- 12 Far from plump
- 13 Realty unit
- 21 Opposite of zenith
- 22 W.W. II area
- 25 Broom made of twigs
- 26 Existing
- 27 Turkey's monetary units
- 28 Dug for coal
- 29 Capital of Ghana
- 30 Assumed name
- 32 Accumulate
- 33 Enjoys
- 34 To whom an exec dictates
- 37 Tractor operator's compartment
- 38 Superlative ending
- 41 Glaringly bad
- 42 Erases
- 47 Stitch
- 50 Covered passageway
- 52 Supplementary jury group
- 53 Squeeze



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Solution to Previous Puzzle

PAULA PAPA FEDS
AFROS AMIS URAL
LAUGHTRACK NINE
ERSE HASTE NEED
BEDS WAY
CIRCE BEL IBAR
ANIONS DIPLOMAT
FANMAIL TEENAGE
ENGROED PRETER
ESQUE ERA OSIER
SSR IRON
RENT ARNIE AMID
ADAR JOKERSWILD
WIMI ABEL POLKA
STEE HERS ALLAY



Membership
Has Its Privileges[®]

54 Identical
55 Roman road
56 Helen of Troy's mother
57 Gte part
58 Italian noble family
59 Iridescent gem
60 Legendary Swiss hero
61 Dryad's home
62 Drop ball lightly

INTERNATIONAL STOCKS

Some Wave Caution Flag Despite 1990s' Fast Start

By Jonathan Fuerbringer
New York Times Service

NEW YORK — The stock markets in West Germany and Britain came out of the starting blocks like rockets in the first week of the New Year, hitting record highs and carrying into 1990 much of the euphoria and buying sentiment of the end of 1989. But even as these markets were taking off, several analysts were waving caution flags.

They expressed concerns about the effect of rising interest rates and doubts about the optimism that has greeted changes in East Europe.

In Frankfurt, where the DAX index reached 1,869.66, the surge was powered by buyers from Japan and other countries, in the belief that the economic development of Eastern Europe, especially East Germany, will help the West German economy and corporate earnings.

Profit-taking pulled down the Frankfurt market toward the end of last week, but a flood of foreign orders revived its bullish mood on Monday, when the DAX closed at 1,843.23, up 23.24 points from Friday's close.

Analysts say they are worried about rising interest rates and the changes in Eastern Europe.

Investors have compressed "20-year earnings benefits into three months," said Jeffrey M. Weintraub, director of international equity research at Goldman, Sachs in London.

In London, the Financial Times 100-stock index reached a high during the day Tuesday and had a closing record of 2,463.7 on Wednesday. It has since slipped back, closing Monday at 2,431.30.

The move was in part a result of the London market's close relationship with Wall Street, where stocks also surged last week, said Martin Wade of Rowe Price Fleming in London. In addition, investors found new values in some stocks and seemed buoyed by a feeling that the worst of Britain's economic problems may be over.

Austria, the top performer last year on a Morgan Stanley index of worldwide stock markets, also set two record highs.

In France, which started the year with two lackluster declines, a record high was set on Thursday for the CAC-40 index.

But even as stocks were surging in Europe, several analysts were suggesting that the markets could become much more volatile in the next several months as Eastern Europe's future difficulties become more clear.

Then domestic economic performance and the ebb and flow of investment from abroad could whip the markets around.

BY THE END OF THE WEEK, there appeared to be some merit to these worries, as West Germany and Britain slid back some, and Japan, where the market was closed the first two days of the New Year, tumbled two days in a row.

A report that the Soviet president, Mikhail S. Gorbachev, was canceling meetings with foreigners to concentrate on domestic problems helped send the Nikkei index of 225 stocks down 622.37 during the day on Friday. It finally closed 438.12 lower, at 38,274. The Nikkei index closed on Monday at 38,294, up by just 20 points. Stock markets in France and Austria also slumped.

"People are taking an anti-Murphy's Law view of the world: Everything that can go right will go right," said Alastair Ross Goobey of James Capel in London. "But what happens to stock markets if Gorbachev falls? They will go down."

Ross Goobey, who was relatively optimistic around Christmas, is now a Scrooge. "Sentiment is very fragile at best," he said.

Caution is still called for amid expectations of higher interest rates, problems with inflation, a tough round of labor talks with the metal workers and uncertainty about developments in Eastern Europe.

"People should be wary of stock markets in general, and they shouldn't chase them," said Ross Goobey of James Capel. "It's not a sell," he said, because markets are not so high or overvalued as they were before the October collapse in 1987. "But you should wait until a bad day and then buy them."

Mazda Cool to Ford Idea

No Chance Seen For Larger Stake

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TOKYO — Mazda Motor Corp. said Monday that it saw no opportunity for Ford Motor Co. to enlarge its stake in the Japanese company and that Mazda had no plans to raise funds by issuing new shares, warrant bonds or convertibles.

Mazda was responding to a statement by Harold A. Poling, vice chairman of Ford, on Sunday that Ford would consider increasing its 23.4 percent stake in Mazda if given the opportunity. Ford's stake in the Japanese auto company is gradually declining as other shareholders convert bonds issued in the past.

Mr. Poling, who will take over as Ford's chairman on March 1 when the current chairman, Donald E. Petersen, retires, made his comment before a speech at the opening dinner of the four-day Automotive News World Congress.

"If the opportunity occurred over time to increase our equity position with Mazda, we would look at it favorably," he said.

He said, however, that he doubted that Ford would be involved in any major acquisition soon. In the past four months, Ford has acquired Jaguar PLC of Britain and Associates Corp., a financing company. Ford is spending \$5.85 billion on the two acquisitions.

Mr. Poling said in his speech that Ford would make front-seat air bags for the driver and passenger standard on all of its cars by the mid-1990s.

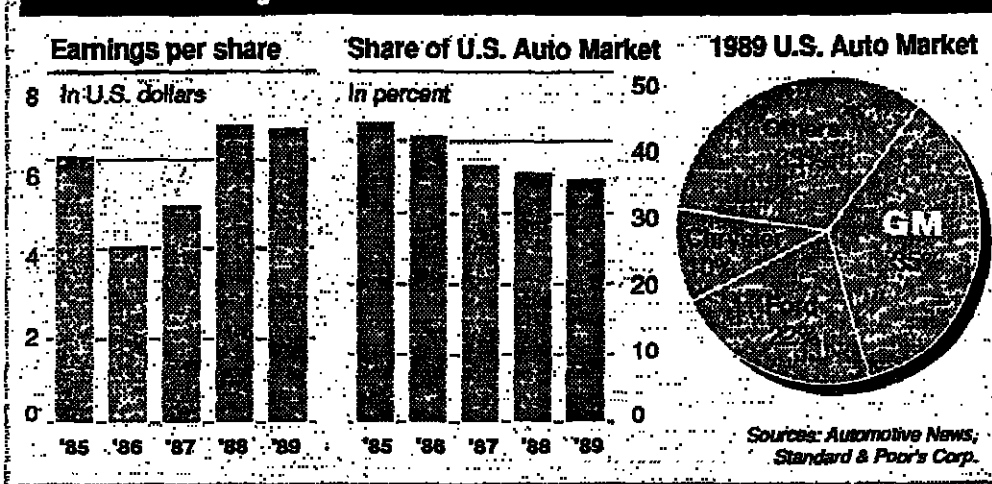
In the 1990 model year, Ford offers the safety devices as standard equipment on the driver side about half of its Ford, Lincoln and Mercury cars. Earlier, Ford said it planned to install front-seat air bags for drivers and passengers on most, but not all, of its cars by the mid-1990s.

Chrysler Corp. offers driver-side air bags on all of its North American-made cars, and General Motors Corp. has them as standard equipment on about 15 percent of its cars.

(Reuters, AP)

Layoffs in Canada
Ford Motor Co. of Canada and Chrysler Canada Ltd. said Monday that they have prolonged temporary layoffs for more than 9,000 Ontario autoworkers. Reuters reported from Toronto.

GM's Shaky Performance



Funds Demand a Say at GM

Dissatisfied Holders Ask to Be Consulted on Strategy

By Doron P. Levin
New York Times Service

DETROIT — Dismayed by the long competitive decline of General Motors Corp., two pension funds that hold large stakes of GM common stock have taken the unprecedented step of asking directors to consult them when naming management and setting company strategy.

The California and New York state public-employee pension funds — two of the largest in the United States — have urged GM directors to consider a broad range of candidates to succeed Roger A. Smith, who is to retire this year

after a decade as GM's chairman and chief executive.

By taking the unusual step of bypassing GM's top executives and speaking directly to the board, managers of the funds are trying to signal the urgency of their concern about the future course of GM, spokesmen for the funds said.

In letters to the GM board, the heads of the funds also requested information about the normally confidential selection process for the chief executive and the performance standards that are being established for new management.

A committee of GM's outside directors was scheduled to meet

with Mr. Smith on Monday to discuss the succession.

The selection of Mr. Smith's successor has been a topic of intense speculation for some time in Detroit, as the automaker's share of the U.S. vehicle market has continued to slide and as the huge company's performance has attracted considerable criticism.

Last week, a manufacturing consultant released a study saying that GM operated the least efficient auto assembly plants in the U.S., despite a \$40 billion modernization program.

The company, in a formal re-

See GM, Page 11

West German Trade Surplus Cut by Imports

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

WIESBADEN, West Germany — The West German merchandise trade surplus dropped 19 percent in November from its level a year earlier, the Federal Statistics Office reported Monday, as strong domestic demand led to an increase in imports.

The office said the surplus was 10.6 billion Deutsche marks (\$6.28 billion) in November, compared with 13.1 billion DM in November 1988. The surplus was 9.5 billion DM in October.

The surplus for the first 11 months of 1989 was 124.7 billion DM, up 9 percent from the same period of 1988.

The balance in the current account, which includes services as well as interest, dividends and certain transfers, showed a surplus of 9.6 billion DM in November, compared with 10.4 billion DM a year earlier. The current-account surplus for October was 7.6 billion DM, revised upward from an estimate of 7.0 billion DM.

The current-account surplus for the first 11 months of 1989 totaled 93.3 billion DM, well above the 85 billion DM total for all of 1988.

Imports in November rose 17 percent, to 44.44 billion DM, while

exports increased only 7.6 percent, to \$5.05 billion DM.

"The period of a strong boost from abroad is over," said an expert at the merchant bank BHF-Bank.

He added that the influx of East German visitors after the opening of the borders between the two countries in early November also contributed to the decline in the surplus, as the East Germans went on a buying spree for imported goods such as tropical fruits and radios.

The recent rise of the Deutsche mark is not yet reflected in export figures, analysts said, and West Germany's exports are not usually overly to changes in the currency.

For 1990, the trade surplus could stabilize or even fall to around 10 billion DM, an economist at Deutsche Bank said. The bank is forecasting a 6 percent increase in exports for the year, against at least a 7.5 percent rise in imports.

On the West German stock market on Monday, a flood of foreign orders poured in, reviving the market's bullish mood after a slump late last week on profit taking.

The DAX index of the 30 leading West German shares closed at 1,843.23, up 23.24 points or 1.3 percent, from the close on Friday.

"It's been the same pattern throughout the past several months," a trader said. "Foreign orders come into the market and then domestic investors jump on the bandwagon."

The current strong Japanese demand is causing a boom similar to that at the start of the 1980s, when U.S. investors plunged into the West German market.

West German shares, which have risen steadily since the Nov. 9 opening of the borders with East Germany, had vaulted to all-time highs on Wednesday but fallen on profit taking the next two days.

In Tokyo, the Finance Ministry, in a preliminary report, announced that the customs-cleared trade surplus had narrowed vastly in the first 20 days of December, to \$1.09 billion from \$3.59 billion a year earlier. The interim merchandise trade surplus compares with one of \$1.72 billion in the similar period for November.

Exports fell 5.0 percent from a year earlier to \$14.28 billion, while imports rose 15.2 percent to \$13.19 billion. The ministry used dollar

devaluation is out of the picture, at least for a while.

"The move is basically an adjustment to existing market conditions," said Gerhard Sunderdick, a currency trader for Bank of America in Frankfurt. He added that he did not expect any further realignment soon.

But Mr. Sunderdick said that "it would be naive to think that no further realignment in the EMS is ahead."

Many market analysts agreed, saying that Friday night's lira devaluation may have only postponed a showdown between France and West Germany over exchange rates.

Economists said the European Community members, in agreeing the first change of official currency parities within the European Monetary System for three years, took the line of least political resistance in an effort to avoid a clash between Paris and Bonn.

One European monetary official said that West Germany had argued at an early stage in telephone negotiations last week that the mark

Lira Firms Against the Mark After Devaluation

Reuters

FRANKFURT — The lira firmed against the Deutsche mark on Monday after the Italian currency's weekend devaluation defused — at least for now — expectations of a broader realignment within the European Monetary System.

In New York, the dollar fell to 1.6675 Deutsche marks, compared with the close of 1.6905 DM at the close on Friday, on the news that major U.S. banks had cut their prime rate to 10 percent from 10.5 percent. In London, the dollar had fallen to 1.6685 DM from 1.6795 DM. In Frankfurt, the lira opened at 1.3389 DM per 1,000, up from 1.333 on Friday. In Milan, meanwhile, the Italian currency was fixed at 748.40 to the mark, near its new central ECU rate, and up from Friday's fixing of 750.65.

"We had been predicting a devaluation for months," said Karl-Heinz Schleiter, chief dealer at Banco di Sicilia in Frankfurt. "Those people who had speculatively moved into the lira are now covering their shorts. That explains the rise."

Italy devalued the lira against the European

The Lira's New Values

Lira needed to buy one unit of other currencies

Currency	Minimum	Central	Maximum
Deutsche Mark	781.57	748.217	765.40
N.L. Guilder	648.28	664.053	679.12
Belgian Franc	35.488	36.2764	37.102
French Franc	218.13	223.091	228.17
Irish Punt	1,959.84	2,004.43	2,050.03
Danish Crown	191.79	196.154	200.62
Spanish Peseta	10.841	11.5111	12.223

International Herald Tribune

Currency Unit by 3 percent and against other European Monetary System currencies by about 3.7 percent late Friday. At the same time, it narrowed the currency's fluctuation band to 2.25 percent from 6 percent.

"The lira is much more attractive now," said one dealer at a U.S. bank in Frankfurt. "Interest rates are still high and the risk of a further

See LIRA, Page 10

See TRADE, Page 12

CURRENCY RATES

Cross Rates																			Jan. 5
American	1.00	3.1195	1.1291	63.907	0.151*														1.3116
British	0.3125	98.04	21.605	0.1535	367.7	16.025													0.2683
Japanese	100.00	2.46	290.60	0.00000001	0.00000001	0.00000001													0.00000001
Swiss	0.75	2.46	290.60	0.00000001	0.00000001	0.00000001													0.00000001
Australian	0.69	2.46	290.60	0.00000001	0.00000001	0.00000001													0.00000001
New Zealand	0.72	2.46	290.60	0.00000001	0.00000001	0.00000001													0.00000001
South African	0.24	2.46	290.60	0.00000001	0.00000001	0.00000001													0.00000001
Real	2.48	2.46	290.60	0.00000001	0.00000001	0.00000001													0.00000001
Thai	0.00025	2.46	290.60	0.00000001	0.00000001	0.00000001													0.00000001
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Chinese Yuan	0.00000001	2.46	290.60	0.00000001	0.00000001	0.00000001													

MARKET DIARY

By Associated Press

London Commodities

Commodity	Unit	High	Low	Settle	Change
SUGAR	100 lbs	21.10	21.00	21.05	+0.05
Coffee	100 lbs	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
Cocoa	100 lbs	1,100.00	1,090.00	1,095.00	+5.00
Wheat	100 lbs	120.00	119.00	119.50	+0.50
Barley	100 lbs	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
Oats	100 lbs	100.00	99.00	99.50	+0.50
Rice	100 lbs	15.00	14.50	14.75	+0.25
Maize	100 lbs	14.00	13.50	13.75	+0.25
Beans	100 lbs	18.00	17.50	17.75	+0.25
Peas	100 lbs	17.00	16.50	16.75	+0.25
Lentils	100 lbs	16.00	15.50	15.75	+0.25
Flour	100 lbs	13.00	12.50	12.75	+0.25
Starch	100 lbs	12.00	11.50	11.75	+0.25
Oil	100 lbs	11.00	10.50	10.75	+0.25
Butter	100 lbs	10.00	9.50	9.75	+0.25
Eggs	100 lbs	9.00	8.50	8.75	+0.25
Chicken	100 lbs	8.00	7.50	7.75	+0.25
Pork	100 lbs	7.00	6.50	6.75	+0.25
Beef	100 lbs	6.00	5.50	5.75	+0.25
Lamb	100 lbs	5.00	4.50	4.75	+0.25
Veal	100 lbs	4.00	3.50	3.75	+0.25
Ham	100 lbs	3.00	2.50	2.75	+0.25
Bacon	100 lbs	2.00	1.50	1.75	+0.25
Sausage	100 lbs	1.00	0.50	0.75	+0.25
Hotdog	100 lbs	0.50	0.25	0.375	+0.125

Currency Options

Commodity	Unit	High	Low	Settle	Change
US Dollar	100	1.65	1.64	1.645	+0.005
Japanese Yen	100	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
British Pound	100	1.50	1.49	1.495	+0.005
Swiss Franc	100	1.40	1.39	1.395	+0.005
West German Mark	100	1.30	1.29	1.295	+0.005
French Franc	100	1.20	1.19	1.195	+0.005
Italian Lira	100	1.10	1.09	1.095	+0.005
Spanish Peseta	100	1.00	0.99	0.995	+0.005
Portuguese Escudo	100	0.90	0.89	0.895	+0.005
Belgian Franc	100	0.80	0.79	0.795	+0.005
Dutch Guilder	100	0.70	0.69	0.695	+0.005
Austrian Schilling	100	0.60	0.59	0.595	+0.005
Swedish Krona	100	0.50	0.49	0.495	+0.005
Norwegian Krone	100	0.40	0.39	0.395	+0.005
Finland Markka	100	0.30	0.29	0.295	+0.005
Yugoslav Dinar	100	0.20	0.19	0.195	+0.005
Czech Koruna	100	0.10	0.09	0.095	+0.005
Slovak Koruna	100	0.05	0.04	0.045	+0.005
Hungarian Forint	100	0.01	0.005	0.0075	+0.0025
Romanian Leu	100	0.005	0.0025	0.00375	+0.00125
Bulgarian Lev	100	0.001	0.0005	0.00075	+0.00025
Soviet Ruble	100	0.0001	0.00005	0.000125	+0.000075

NYSE Diary

Commodity	Unit	High	Low	Settle	Change
US Dollar	100	1.65	1.64	1.645	+0.005
Japanese Yen	100	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
British Pound	100	1.50	1.49	1.495	+0.005
Swiss Franc	100	1.40	1.39	1.395	+0.005
West German Mark	100	1.30	1.29	1.295	+0.005
French Franc	100	1.20	1.19	1.195	+0.005
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Belgian Franc	100	0.80	0.79	0.795	+0.005
Dutch Guilder	100	0.70	0.69	0.695	+0.005
Austrian Schilling	100	0.60	0.59	0.595	+0.005
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Norwegian Krone	100	0.40	0.39	0.395	+0.005
Finland Markka	100	0.30	0.29	0.295	+0.005
Yugoslav Dinar	100	0.20	0.19	0.195	+0.005
Czech Koruna	100	0.10	0.09	0.095	+0.005
Slovak Koruna	100	0.05	0.04	0.045	+0.005
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Romanian Leu	100	0.005	0.0025	0.00375	+0.00125
Bulgarian Lev	100	0.001	0.0005	0.00075	+0.00025
Soviet Ruble	100	0.0001	0.00005	0.000125	+0.000075

Dow Jones Averages

Commodity	Unit	High	Low	Settle	Change
US Dollar	100	1.65	1.64	1.645	+0.005
Japanese Yen	100	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
British Pound	100	1.50	1.49	1.495	+0.005
Swiss Franc	100	1.40	1.39	1.395	+0.005
West German Mark	100	1.30	1.29	1.295	+0.005
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Slovak Koruna	100	0.05	0.04	0.045	+0.005
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Romanian Leu	100	0.005	0.0025	0.00375	+0.00125
Bulgarian Lev	100	0.001	0.0005	0.00075	+0.00025
Soviet Ruble	100	0.0001	0.00005	0.000125	+0.000075

AMEX Diary

Commodity	Unit	High	Low	Settle	Change
US Dollar	100	1.65	1.64	1.645	+0.005
Japanese Yen	100	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
British Pound	100	1.50	1.49	1.495	+0.005
Swiss Franc	100	1.40	1.39	1.395	+0.005
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Bulgarian Lev	100	0.001	0.0005	0.00075	+0.00025
Soviet Ruble	100	0.0001	0.00005	0.000125	+0.000075

NASDAQ Diary

Commodity	Unit	High	Low	Settle	Change
US Dollar	100	1.65	1.64	1.645	+0.005
Japanese Yen	100	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
British Pound	100	1.50	1.49	1.495	+0.005
Swiss Franc	100	1.40	1.39	1.395	+0.005
West German Mark	100	1.30	1.29	1.295	+0.005
French Franc	100	1.20	1.19	1.195	+0.005
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Belgian Franc	100	0.80	0.79	0.795	+0.005
Dutch Guilder	100	0.70	0.69	0.695	+0.005
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Slovak Koruna	100	0.05	0.04	0.045	+0.005
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Romanian Leu	100	0.005	0.0025	0.00375	+0.00125
Bulgarian Lev	100	0.001	0.0005	0.00075	+0.00025
Soviet Ruble	100	0.0001	0.00005	0.000125	+0.000075

N.Y. Stocks

Commodity	Unit	High	Low	Settle	Change
US Dollar	100	1.65	1.64	1.645	+0.005
Japanese Yen	100	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
British Pound	100	1.50	1.49	1.495	+0.005
Swiss Franc	100	1.40	1.39	1.395	+0.005
West German Mark	100	1.30	1.29	1.295	+0.005
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Czech Koruna	100	0.10	0.09	0.095	+0.005
Slovak Koruna	100	0.05	0.04	0.045	+0.005
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Romanian Leu	100	0.005	0.0025	0.00375	+0.00125
Bulgarian Lev	100	0.001	0.0005	0.00075	+0.00025
Soviet Ruble	100	0.0001	0.00005	0.000125	+0.000075

NYSE Indexes

Commodity	Unit	High	Low	Settle	Change
US Dollar	100	1.65	1.64	1.645	+0.005
Japanese Yen	100	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
British Pound	100	1.50	1.49	1.495	+0.005
Swiss Franc	100	1.40	1.39	1.395	+0.005
West German Mark	100	1.30	1.29	1.295	+0.005
French Franc	100	1.20	1.19	1.195	+0.005
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Romanian Leu	100	0.005	0.0025	0.00375	+0.00125
Bulgarian Lev	100	0.001	0.0005	0.00075	+0.00025
Soviet Ruble	100	0.0001	0.00005	0.000125	+0.000075

AMEX Stock Index

Commodity	Unit	High	Low	Settle	Change
US Dollar	100	1.65	1.64	1.645	+0.005
Japanese Yen	100	110.00	109.00	109.50	+0.50
British Pound	100	1.50	1.49	1.495	+0.005
Swiss Franc	100				
Gold	100				
Silver	100				
Platinum	100				
Palladium	100				
Rhodium	100				
Iridium	100				
Rosin	100				
Creosote	100				
Phenol	100				
Formaldehyde	100				
Acetic Acid	100				
Hydrochloric Acid	100				
Sulfuric Acid	100				
Nitric Acid	100				
Ammonia	100				
Urea	100				
Ammonium Sulfate	100				
Phosphate	100				
Potash	100				
Soda Ash	100				
Salt	100				
Flour	100				
Wheat	100				
Corn	100				
Soybeans	100				
Beans	100				
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Dixons Profit Falls 23.8% for Half

LONDON — Dixons Group PLC said Monday that first-half pre-tax profit fell 23.8 percent, and it predicted full-year income of at least £70 million (\$114 million) before the costs of fighting a \$461 million takeover bid by Kingfisher PLC.

In its previous financial year, which ended in April, the retailer of

electrical products had earnings of £78.6 million.

Despite the drop in earnings for the first half, to £32 million from £42 million, Dixons raised its dividend to 1.6 pence per share from 1.43 pence. It said the full-year payout would be not less than 5.6 pence, up from 4.73.

The company reported net profit

for the half of £23.8 million, compared with £27.7 million, and total retail revenue of £803.5 million, compared with £827.5 million.

Dixons' chairman, Stanley Kalms, said "These figures are lower than last year, but they demonstrate the resilience of the group in a particularly difficult period of our retail markets."

Dixons said its forecast for full-year earnings included a slump in its British retail business, despite strong Christmas sales. It said that would be partly offset by an expected rise in U.K. retail financial services.

Kingfisher, the retail chain formerly known as Woolworths PLC, made a cash offer of 120 pence per share for Dixons in December.

Pearl Group Rises

Pearl Group PLC, the British insurer that was acquired in November in a hostile takeover by Australian Mutual Provident for £1.1 billion, reported Monday that pre-tax profit for 1989 rose 18.1 percent, to £231.5 million from £196.0 million.

Separately, Thames Water PLC, which was privatized in December, said profit for the half ending Sept. 30 was £81.4 million on revenue of £297.2 million. There are no comparable figures from the previous year.

Investors Seek Stake in Waterford

Heinz Chief Reportedly Is Negotiating to Buy 29.9%

DUBLIN — A group of overseas investors led by the chairman of H.J. Heinz Co., Tony O'Reilly, is negotiating to purchase 29.9 percent of Waterford Wedgwood PLC for around 70 million Irish punts (\$105 million), industry sources said on Monday.

Shares in the china and crystal group, which has been hit by production, marketing and accounting problems, jumped 11 percent, to 61 Irish pence, on the Dublin Stock Exchange from Friday's close of 55 pence.

Waterford's board of directors issued a statement to the stock exchange confirming that negotiations are taking place which may lead to a cash subscription for a major but not controlling interest in the share capital of Waterford Wedgwood PLC. No further announcement will be made until discussions are concluded.

But the industry sources said that Mr. O'Reilly's holding company, Fitzwilliam PLC, would offer to

buy the Waterford Wedgwood at less than 40 pence a share.

A spokesman for Fitzwilliam, an industrial holding company with interests in financial services, said: "We have no comment to make. This is a very price-sensitive situation."

A 29.9 percent stake is the largest that can be acquired without making a bid for the rest of the company.

The Heinz executive has been interested in Waterford Wedgwood for two years, but stopped short of making a bid in 1988 when his interest became known and the share price rose sharply. The sources said Mr. O'Reilly's backers for the proposed deal would be wealthy investors, mainly from the United States and Canada.

Waterford has been hit recently by a downturn in its crucial British and U.S. markets. Analysts expect the group to incur losses of six million punts in 1990, after an estimated 1989 net loss of around 20 million punts.

Investor's Europe

Frankfurt	London	Paris
Commerzbank	FT-100 Index	CAC-40
2300	2650	2700
2200	2550	2600
2100	2450	2500
2000	2350	2400
1900	2250	2300
1800	2150	2200
1700	2050	2100
1600	1950	2000
1500	1850	1900
1400	1750	1800
1300	1650	1700
1200	1550	1600
1100	1450	1500
1000	1350	1400
900	1250	1300
800	1150	1200
700	1050	1100
600	950	1000
500	850	900
400	750	800
300	650	700
200	550	600
100	450	500
0	350	400

Source: Datastream, AFP

Pubs-for-Breweries Deal Reported for Grand Met

LONDON — Grand Metropolitan PLC may be close to a deal with Australia-based Elders IXL Ltd. under which it would exchange its brewing interests for bars owned by Elders' U.K. subsidiary, Courage Group Ltd., analysts said.

A Sunday Times report this week said such a deal may be before the end of January.

A spokesman for Grand Met would not confirm a deal was imminent. Analysts said such a deal would be stimulated by new U.K. legislation, which restricts the number of pubs a brewer may own.

Under the rules, Elders has to sell a minimum of around 1,500 of its U.K. pubs by November 1992, while the sale of Grand Met's breweries would leave the U.K. firm free to buy more pubs.

The firms already have strong links. Grand Met brews Elders' Fosters beer under license in Britain and the United States.

Grand Met's breweries are at Mortlake, in London; in Rutland, where its Ruddles brand is made; in Halifax, and in Trowbridge.

Smurfit Joins WMI in Recycling

LONDON — Jefferson Smurfit Corp., which is 50 percent-owned by Jefferson Smurfit Group PLC of Ireland, and Waste Management Inc. said Monday that they had signed a letter of intent to form a

venture to process and market recycled paper.

The companies said the new entity, Smurfit/WMI Recycling Co., was expected to be the world's largest paper-recycling company. Smurfit Corp.'s reclamation division will become an independent business owned equally by Smurfit Corp. and Waste Management.

Smurfit Corp.'s reclamation division has 32 processing facilities and markets more than 3.7 million tons a year of recycled corrugated containers, newspaper and other products. Waste Management collects recyclable waste from more than 1.2 million households and has 35 U.S. processing facilities. It recovers aluminum, glass and plastics as well as paper.

Other Transactions

AB Electronics, the Swedish consumer products company, is selling a subsidiary, BBM Invest AB, to Det Danske Traelskogni A/S of Denmark for \$20 million Swedish kronor (\$4 million).

BBM is the parent company of the Swedish building materials group, Beijer Bygghandel. Det Danske Traelskogni trades

Eurotunnel Shares Tumble After Dispute Reaches Court

Agence France-Press

PARIS — The British-French company Eurotunnel said Monday that it should be able to reach agreement with its contractor, Transmanche Link, in a dispute over increased costs of the cross-Channel tunnel, as the share price fell on the eve of crucial financing talks.

Eurotunnel shares fell in Paris, slipping to 60.05 francs (\$10.36) at one point Monday, but recovered to 62 on the Eurotunnel statement. The Paris close was still 3.3 percent down on Friday, and shares also fell in London.

A French commercial court on Monday adjourned a Transmanche claim for almost 400 million francs in unpaid bills without setting a date for a hearing, on the grounds that the two sides should be able to reach agreement.

Eurotunnel said in a statement issued in Paris that the non-payment was linked to a dispute with Transmanche, which is building the tunnel, over the cost of the project.

The cost of the tunnel has risen by more than £2 billion (\$3.28 billion) over the initial estimate of £485 billion, but Eurotunnel and Transmanche are in dispute over the exact amount.

Eurotunnel puts it at around £7 billion, while the latest figure from Transmanche is £7.5 billion.

The 208 banks will not release further credits until an agreement has been reached on how much extra money is needed.

French newspapers were fairly optimistic Monday about the chances of Eurotunnel and Transmanche reaching accord in crucial talks on Tuesday.

NYSE

Monday's Closing
Tables include the nationwide prices up to the closing on Wall Street and do not reflect late trades elsewhere. Via The Associated Press

(Continued)

12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Net	12 Month	High	Low	Open	Close	Net
3M T-Bill	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	3M T-Bill	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
6M T-Bill	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	6M T-Bill	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
12M T-Bill	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	12M T-Bill	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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30Y T-Bill	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y T-Bill	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
10Y Note	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	10Y Note	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
30Y Note	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Note	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
10Y Bond	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	10Y Bond	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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30Y Corp	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Corp	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
10Y Int'l	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	10Y Int'l	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
30Y Int'l	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Int'l	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
10Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	10Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
30Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
10Y Div Int'l	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	10Y Div Int'l	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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30Y Bond	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Bond	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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30Y Corp	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Corp	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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30Y Int'l	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Int'l	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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30Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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30Y Corp	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Corp	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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10Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	10Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
30Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	30Y Div	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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10Y Corp	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06	10Y Corp	7.31	7.25	7.31	7.25	-0.06
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SPORTS

Philadelphia's Gift to La Salle

Up From the Projects, Simmons a Prize On and Off Court

By Clifton Brown
New York Times Service

PHILADELPHIA — When Lionel Simmons stops running so gracefully on the basketball court, perhaps he should run for political office.

In the South Philadelphia neighborhood where he grew up, Simmons is idolized. To the junior high students he lectures to, he is a role model.

To his teachers at La Salle University, Simmons is a student-athlete who truly cares about his academics. And to his teammates, he is the multitasking 6-foot, 7-inch (2-meter) forward who has led La Salle's basketball team to national prominence.

Is Lionel Simmons too good to be true? "If I didn't know better, maybe I'd think so, too," said Speedy Morris, La Salle's coach. "People see all the flowery things we say about him and they probably find it all a little hard to believe. But that's just Lionel."

"I've got a stack of letters from principals of junior high schools thanking him for going there to speak. I didn't even know he was going. He does it all on his own."

"Sometimes I wish he'd get mad," Morris said. "His freshman year, I was really, really brutal to him. I yelled at him; I cursed at him. All he did was roll his eyes and keep playing."

"His ability to relate with people is as good as anybody I've been associated with. I've got four kids, and if they all turn out like him, I'll be the happiest guy in the world."

Thanks to Simmons, Morris is already one of the happiest coaches in the United States. La Salle ran its record to 8-0 last Wednesday with a 63-62 victory over Temple in which Simmons scored 23 points, two on free throws with 11 seconds left to play.

The week before, in New Orleans, he had dominated the Sugar Bowl Classic and had been named the tournament's most valuable player. La Salle won the finals with a 76-69 victory over Florida, in which Simmons had 33 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists.

Although those triumphs were followed by a 121-116 loss Saturday night to No. 25 Loyola Marymount, Simmons got 34 points to top the 32 scored by the visitors' Bo Kimble, the nation's leading scorer.

The Explorers' fast start catapulted them to the No. 17 spot in last week's national collegiate rankings. But Simmons' stock is even higher.

Louisville's Pressure Defense Leaves UCLA Rattled, 97-80

The Associated Press

Felton Spencer had six points in a 20-3 run at the start of the game, and Jerome Harrison came off the bench to score 23 points in leading No. 8 Louisville to a 97-80 victory at home Sunday night over the fifteenth-ranked University of California at Los Angeles.

Against the pressing defense of Louisville (10-2), UCLA (9-2) made a season-low 39.7 percent of its shots and the Cardinals scored 23 points off 18 UCLA turnovers.

No. 23 Oregon State 64, California 58; Gary Payton scored 14 of his 20 points in the second half to rally Oregon State (11-2) in Berkeley, California.

Cal led, 32-28, at intermission and stretched its lead to 47-37 before the Beavers switched from a zone defense to man-to-man. Cal (10-4) scored only eight points in the final 10 minutes.

Payton scored nine points during a 16-4 second-half run that put the Beavers up by 58-54 with two minutes left.

He is a sure bet to be among the first 10 players chosen in the 1990 National Basketball Association draft, and he may be drafted in the top five. All of which means that Lionel Simmons, who grew up in the South Philadelphia projects, may soon be a millionaire.

Simmons turned down a chance to join the NBA after last season, when he averaged 28.4 points and 11.4 rebounds while leading La Salle to a 26-6 record.

Morris said one NBA team contacted him after the season and said it would draft Simmons and offer him a four-year, guaranteed contract worth \$2 million if he decided to leave school early. But when Morris told Simmons, it took him about one minute to dismiss it.

"That's a lot of money, but I promised my mom I would graduate," said Simmons, who is on target to get a degree next spring in criminal justice. "The NBA will be there next year. Besides, after this, I might go even higher in the draft."

So Simmons is back at La Salle, and the Explorers are reaping the benefits. But before his offensive surge against Florida, Simmons was in the midst of a mini-slump, at least by his standards.

Through his first five games, he averaged 21 points and 9.4 rebounds, but made just 45.5 percent of his shots from the field. After an atypical 5-for-17 shooting performance against Villanova on Dec. 21, he admitted that the pressure of living up to preseason expectations was hindering him.

"Everybody thinks I'm supposed to get 25 points and 15 rebounds every night, and I guess I think I should, too," Simmons said. "But the important thing is for us to win games. The shots I've been missing are the shots I've been making for three years. They'll start falling again."

After his performances in New Orleans and then against Temple and Loyola Marymount, it appears that Simmons, nicknamed the L Train, is back on track. He is a devastating scorer, who has spent four collegiate seasons expanding his offensive repertoire.

Thanks to a soft turnaround jump shot, excellent leaping ability and strong post-up moves, he could always rebound and score inside. But he has improved his jump shot to where he is now a threat from three-point range.

And in La Salle's uptempo offense, he handles the ball well enough to lead the Explorers' fastbreak occasionally. For Simmons, the path to success was littered with obstacles. He does not like to dwell on the shortcomings of his neighborhood, but he admits that trouble was always close by if he wanted it.

"People who have never been in that environment probably have a more negative perception of it than I do," said Simmons, who is the youngest of five children. "There are drugs around and there's violence, but to me it's not a big thing because I'm used to seeing it and it doesn't involve me. If you come from there, you accept it. And coming from that type of environment has made me hungry to want to get away from it."

But that environment had a different effect on Simmons' two older brothers. Amos, 25, is serving two to five years at Graterford Prison in Philadelphia for theft. Brian, 23, was recently released from a low-security prison after a number of petty crimes.

As a youngster, Simmons saw nothing unusual about his brothers' predicament. He thought it came with the territory. But he eventually learned there were other options.

"So many people in our neighborhood went to jail, at first, I looked at it as something that's supposed to happen to everybody who comes from that environment," Simmons said. "But I learned from my brother's experience. I looked at them doing something wrong, and decided I wanted something different. Besides, being the youngest, I



Simmons: "I learned from my brother's experience."

was always the scared one. I never had much heart when it came to getting in trouble."

Ironically, he still remembers going to the neighborhood court for pickup games as a youngster and regularly being the last person chosen when his friends picked sides. But those disappointments made him work harder. His game improved, and growing to 6-7 didn't hurt, either.

Simmons did have a heart for basketball, and by his senior year in high school was one of Philadelphia's most highly recruited players. Some were surprised when he chose La Salle, but not the people who know him.

"Lionel figured he could come here and be an impact player right away," said Bobby Johnson, a La Salle forward who was also a teammate at South Philadelphia High School. "As usual, he made a wise decision. We've had a great four years here and we've beaten a lot of teams."

"Me and Lionel have known each other since elementary school. He's a caring guy, and he looks out for his friends. When somebody says Lionel Simmons, all you think about is good things."

"After this year, he'll be in the pros and all, but he'll still be Lionel. And we already think he's the best."

NCAA Votes to Drop Proposition 42, Keep Limit on Scholarships

The Associated Press

DALLAS — The National Collegiate Athletic Association voted Monday to rescind Proposition 42, the controversial measure that would have toughened athletic scholarship standards starting next fall.

The delegates to the annual convention voted, 258-66-1, to allow incoming students who meet only part of the academic requirements to receive regular scholarship help, but not athletic scholarships.

The change will retain the academic incentives. UCLA's chancellor, Charles Young, told the delegates, "without the potential devastating financial side effects" of Proposition 42.

The NCAA also voted Monday, by 80-26-3, to keep the number of football scholarships a Division I-A team can award annually at 25. That retained a cost-cutting measure passed two years ago that cut the scholarships from 30. Schools still can't exceed the 95-player limit.

Proposition 42 would have denied scholarships to incoming athletes who have a C-average overall in high schools, and don't meet two other academic requirements of Proposition 48: a C-average in 11 core courses and minimum scores on standardized college entrance exams.

So-called "partial qualifiers" now still can receive athletic scholarships, although they are not eligible for practice or competition. About 600 partial qualifiers have received athletic scholarships in the three years since Proposition 48 was adopted.

Head of NCAA Calls for a 'New Model'

Earlier, William C. Rhodes of The New York Times reported:

Richard D. Schultz, executive director of the NCAA, opened the organization's 84th convention by calling for a "new model" in administering intercollegiate athletics and maintaining their integrity.

"Today, the general public and even our faculties and deans feel that colleges and universities are not doing a good job of controlling intercollegiate athletics, and that the NCAA is an ineffective, do-nothing organization," Schultz said Sunday night.

"In other words, the model is not working. If this is the case, it's time to develop a new model."

As part of his program for change, Schultz called for a reduction in the off-campus recruitment of athletes and a tenure program for coaches, by which they would be given a five-year contract with no dismissal except for rules violations.

He also called for an emergency loan system for needy athletes and said, "Let's also eliminate the athletic dorms and the constant isolation of the athlete from the rest of the student body."

"Any new model must make the athlete as indistinguishable from the rest of the student body as is humanly possible."

For all of Schultz's positive remarks this year's convention has several volatile issues on the agenda and is expected to be one of the most controversial meetings since 1983, when Proposition 48, which set academic standards for student-athletes, was passed.

Another fight is expected to take place over a Presidents Commission proposal that would shorten the basketball season, reduce spring practice in football by 10 days and eliminate contact. The proposal would push the beginning of basketball practice from Oct. 15 to Dec. 1 and reduce the maximum number of regular-season games to 25 from 28.

SIDELINES

Schembechler Quits at Michigan To Head Baseball Detroit Tigers

DETROIT (AP) — Bo Schembechler, whose 27-year career as football coach ended with the University of Michigan's 17-10 loss in the Rose Bowl, joined the Detroit Tigers on Monday as president of the baseball team. Schembechler, 60, will also resign as Michigan's athletic director and succeed Jim Campbell, who is retiring, as chief executive officer of the Tigers.

Kronberger Wins Cup Slalom

HINTERSTODER, Austria (AP) — Petra Kronberger of Austria won the women's giant slalom Monday for her third World Cup victory this season.

She was timed in 2 minutes, 21.44 seconds for her two runs, with teammate Anita Wachter second (see Scoreboard) and Michela Gery of West Germany, who heads the season's standings with 148 points, third. Veronika Sarec of Yugoslavia, who had the second fastest overall time, was disqualified after losing a ski in the final stage.

Curry Quits; Navy Hires Coach

TUSCALOOSA, Alabama (AP) — Bill Curry, who spent three controversial football seasons coaching at the University of Alabama, has quit and was expected Monday to take the head coaching job at the University of Kentucky, where Jerry Claiborne recently resigned.

The U.S. Naval Academy on Monday hired George Chaump, the coach at Marshall University, to replace Elliott Uzelac as its coach.

Alabama's athletic director, Hootie Ingram, said a replacement for Curry could be expected by the end of the week.

Reds Sign Davis for \$9.3 Million

CINCINNATI (AP) — The Cincinnati Reds gave outfielder Eric Davis a three-year, \$9.3 million contract Sunday that includes performance bonuses that could make him the highest-paid player in baseball.

Although the average base salary of \$3.1 million leaves Davis behind Mark Davis's annual salary of \$3.25 million, performance bonuses of \$250,000 for winning Gold Glove, Silver Slugger and National League most valuable player honors could boost him above that.

For the Record

Paul Azinger rolled in a short putt for par on the final hole Sunday to win the \$750,000 Tournament of Champions in Carlsbad, California, when his playing partner, Ian Baker-Finch of Australia, bogeyed the last hole. (UPI)

Sunday Silence and Rhythm won the 1989 Eclipse Awards as the champion 3-year-old colt and the outstanding 2-year-old in the United States. (AP)

Walt Michaels, former coach of the New York Jets, was hired as coach and general manager of the Helsinki team in the International League of American Football. (AP)

South African Bertie Reed and Frenchman Jean-Yves Terlain abandoned the Globe Challenge singlehanded round-the-world yachting race early Monday because of equipment failures off the coast of South Africa, reducing the field to 10 competitors. (Reuters)

Attendance at U.S. college football games last season was 36.4 million, the fourth highest since the National Collegiate Athletic Association began keeping records in 1937 and a recovery from a big decline in 1988. (AP)

CHESS

By Robert Byrne

MOST chess openings that are put away on the shelf deserve their fate. They cannot spoil or get rusty or deteriorate beyond the original failure that got them there. They are the well-forgotten mistakes.

Yet there are others that should never have been consigned to obscurity, that were the victims of defensive analysis or bad judgment or whatever can ruin an opening's reputation — even, perhaps, an unfavorable remark by a champion who, however, had never had the opening in his repertoire and had never known much about it.

Some of these seem to ripen on the shelf until their true value shines forth and they are taken up by some curious theorist-player after many years of disuse. One can never predict when.

In the last year, a variation of the Alekhine Defense that was abused more than two decades ago has made a triumphant return. In this case, its apparent bizarre floating of accepted principles has turned out to be a great lure for the unwary opponent. This can be seen in the game between the grandmasters Nick de Firmian of Oakland, California, and Michael Rohde of New York, from the 11th round of the United States Championship in Long Beach, California. It was played on Nov. 21.

Brent Larsen sprang the unusual 4...d5 5 Nc5 Nd7 on Mikhail Tal in their world

championship candidates match in 1965. The former world champion thought for 45 minutes and then declined the challenge with the tame 6 Bc4. But it was not long before it became accepted that 6 N7 gave White a winning attack. There was the added incentive that the alternative 6 Nd7 expedited Black's development.

But last year Czechoslovakian players began a refurbishing of the defense beginning with 10...Nc5. One of their discoveries was that after 11 Bc4 c5 12 Nc5 a6, the attack with 13 b4 could be strong-ly met by the old, ridiculed 13...Qb6!

Thus, 14 b4 c5 15 Rd1 g6 (they gave 15...g5, which may be sufficient) 16 Rd3 Bb6 17 Bc5 Kc5 18 d6 Bc6 19 Qc7 Rb8 20 Qb7 Bc4 21 Rd1 Bc5 stops the white attack and starts the black one a piece ahead.

Presumably, this was what de Firmian thought to avoid by playing 13 O-O-O, but he did not seem to realize that he was falling into an old analysis of the late Paul Keres: 13...g6! 14 Bc5 (14 Re1? Bb6! wins outright for Black) Kc5 15 d6 Bb6. The Californian's 16 Kc2 was no improvement over Keres's 16 Kb1, but Rohde's 16...Qc8! was even more convincing than Keres's 16...Qf8.

The point was that after the last hurrah with 17 Rd5 Nd5 18 Qd5 Kf6 19 Nd4 Kc7, the black king had ended his bizarre exposure and gotten back to safety a rook ahead. After a few more half-hearted attempts to create something, de Fir-

man played 26 b4, but, realizing that 26...Rd8 would routinely win for Rohde, he gave up.

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BOOKS

THE GROWN-UPS

By Victoria Glendinning. 244 pages. \$18.95. Alfred A. Knopf, 201 East 50th Street, New York, N.Y. 10022.

Reviewed by Michiko Kakutani

WITH "The Grown-Ups," the English biographer Victoria Glendinning turns from writing about the lives of literary women to creating three idiosyncratic heroines of her own.

Though her characters lack the ferocious individuality of her biographical subjects (Rebecca West, Vita Sackville-West and Edith Sitwell), they are nonetheless engaging, spirited women, sympathetically yet bluntly portrayed.

There is Clara, a smart, observant career woman (recently discharged from her job as a book editor) whose penchant for sharp, critical quips masks deeper insecurities and fears. There is Alice, a devoted if faintly bored homemaker, who "led a charmed life" and wanted her friends to acknowledge it. And there is Martha, a children's book illustrator, torn between her work and the vociferous demands of her husband. All three went to school together and once shared a flat in London.

All three are now in love with the same man — a well-known author, scholar and television personality named Leo Ulm.

Martha is married to him; Alice has married his son from an earlier marriage, and after years of unrequited pining, Clara has just had an awful one-night stand with him. When Leo Ulm abruptly dies one night — under decidedly mysterious circumstances — all three are forced to re-evaluate their relationships with him, and in doing so, to reassess their lives.

So far "The Grown-Ups" sounds like another humdrum farce about domestic difficulties and romantic shenanigans. What sets it apart is Glendinning's easy familiarity with her characters, her ability to combine the sort of sociological observation practiced by a Margaret Drabble with the comic invention of a Kingsley Amis or a Fay Weldon.

Like Weldon, she uses her story as an armature on which to drape all sorts of wry observations about men and women; and like Weldon, she employs the services of a coolly unimpassioned narrator whose tart commentary turns the story of Leo Ulm and his women into a parable about the perils of sex and love.

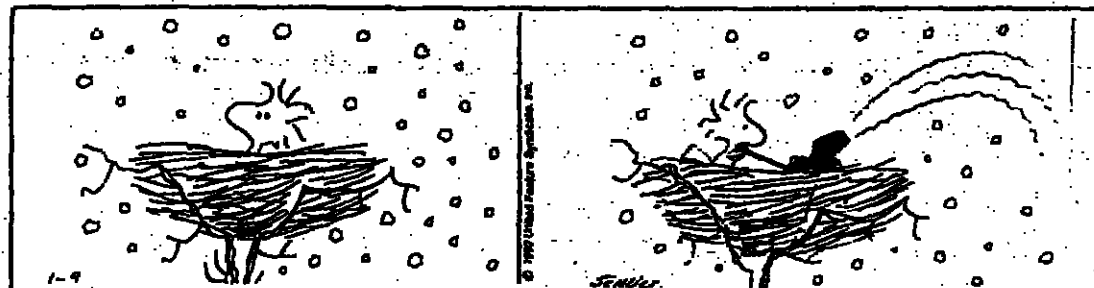
Leo, the reader quickly learns, is one of those complacent egotists who revel in their fame, accept the kindnesses of strangers as natural acts of fealty and take for granted the ministrations of their loved ones as their proper due.

For much of the novel, relationships between men and women seem doomed; they are hopeless power struggles in which needs and desires, affections and hopes are ridiculously out of sync.

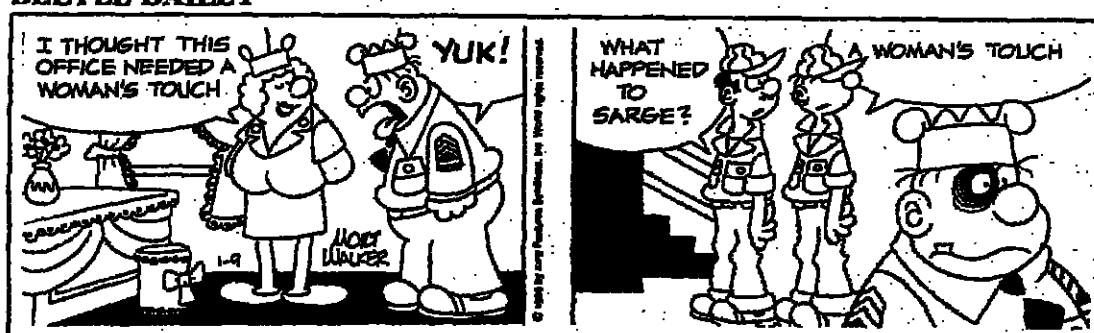
The reader may feel there is something a bit soap opera-like about this. At the same time, the characters' easy combination of the ordinary and the comic, the recognizable and the peculiar, enables them to quickly insinuate themselves in the reader's mind. Though one soon forgets the details of their plight, their stories make for some pleasing and literate entertainment in the meantime.

Michiko Kakutani is on the staff of The New York Times.

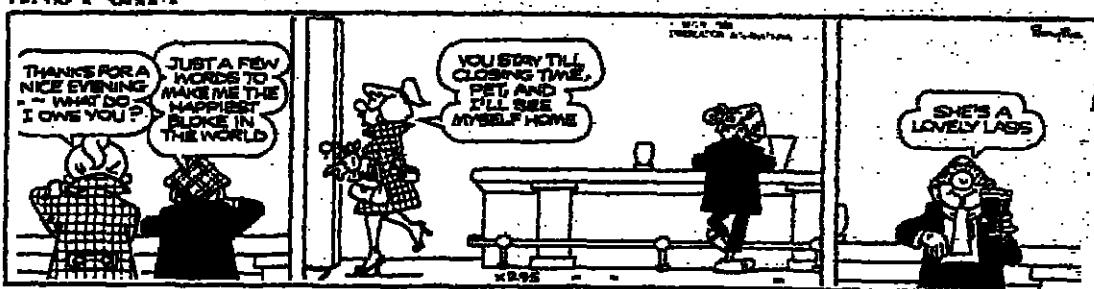
PEANUTS



BEETLE BAILEY



ANDY CAPP



WIZARD of ID



REX MORGAN



GARFIELD



DOONESBURY



DENNIS THE MENACE



JUMBLE



VANTAGE

The Game

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SPORTS

VANTAGE POINT/Dave Anderson
The Gamble, the Call

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey — During the New York Giants' preparations for the Los Angeles Rams, the players were often reminded by Bill Parcells of the importance of "understanding what goes on" in the Super Bowl playoffs.

"One key mistake," the Giants' coach had said Friday. "Offside, illegal motion, a gamble that doesn't work. One of those can cost us all."

When Parcells was asked if he thought the NFL officials were more tolerant in the playoffs, he nodded and said, "I think there's a little more tendency to let it go unless it's flagrant. Nothing nit-picking should determine the game."

But Sunday one of those gambles, combined with an official's call, certainly contributed to, if not caused, the Giants' overtime 19-13 loss, which put the Rams into next Sunday's National Conference championship game in San Francisco in the Super Bowl XXIV tournament.

Sheldon White, the Giants' fifth defensive back, was ruled by Bernie Kukar, the field judge, to have interfered with Willie (Flipper) Anderson at the Giants' 25-yard line. On the next play, after a five-yard penalty, Jim Everett found Anderson in the end zone and the Rams' wide receiver disappeared through the tunnel into the locker room.

Maybe he spiked the ball in the shower. But the pass-interference call on White had spiked the Giants' chances of keeping the Rams out of field-goal range.

"The defensive man," Kukar said of White, "did not play the ball, he played the man. The ball was still in the air. He wrapped up the receiver while the ball was still catchable. That is pass interference."

To these eyes, the television replay appeared to justify Kukar's call. It wasn't a nit-picking call so much as it was a gamble by White that failed, a desperate roll of the dice in overtime. On the replay, White appeared to be clutching Anderson, but the Giants' primary argument was that the ball was uncatchable.

"Superman couldn't have caught that ball," White was saying now at his locker. "That was a bad call, a bad call."

"I touched it — was that catchable?" Anderson said. "As soon as I was going to reach for it, he was on my back."

Had the ball been determined by Kukar to be uncatchable, the official would not have dropped his yellow penalty flag. But some Giants, like Gary Reason, the linebacker who calls the defensive signals, contended that "there was linebacker" between White and Anderson at the moment of truth. Despite the importance of the call, Parcells didn't complain. At least not publicly.

"You saw the play; that's all I'm going to say about it," he told the assembled notebooks and microphones. "I thought the game was well handled."

But when Parcells was asked if he were "finding it difficult not to say something" about the call that so contributed to the loss, he said, "What do you think?"

But another reason for the Giants' loss is the NFL's unfair overtime structure.

In retrospect, the Rams won the game when they won the coin toss before sudden-death overtime began. They needed only 66 seconds to score. And as soon as they did, the Giants had lost without having had an opportunity on offense.

Asked about that overtime rule, Parcells didn't complain.

"That's fine," he said calmly. "That's no problem."

But an overtime playoff game shouldn't be decided by a coin toss. If the receiving team scores immediately, the other team should have at least the opportunity to receive the ensuing kickoff and go from there.

As the visiting team, the Rams had the privilege of calling heads or tails on the coin-toss before both the opening kickoff and the overtime coin toss. On each occasion at time kickoff, on each occasion at time kickoff, 35-year-old Jackie Slater, the Rams' offensive tackle, called heads. The coin came up tails before the opening kickoff, heads before the overtime kickoff.

"I always call heads," Slater explained. "The reason is, I'm a Christian and Jesus Christ is the head of my life. I've called the toss every time but once since Coach John Robinson has let me do it."

The shame is that, win or lose, a season boiled down to a coin-toss call and a controversial call. But the Rams let a 6-0 lead disappear when Everett's 20-yard touchdown pass to Anderson with 17 seconds left in the first half followed Michael Stewart's interception of Phil Simms' first-down pass at the Giants' 35.

"You shouldn't take a chance in that situation," Parcells said later. "But throwing the ball doesn't necessarily mean taking a chance. We thought we could get close enough for another field goal."

Instead, the Giants suddenly found themselves behind at halftime. And only 66 seconds after the overtime began, they found they were finished for another season.



Merrill Hoge, being tackled by Steve Atwater, gained 30 yards on the Steelers' first series and had 100 yards by halftime. Said the Broncos' Alfonso Carreker: "He made us look real bad, didn't he?"

Carson Takes Charge as Browns Are Finally His

By Gerald Eskenazi

New York Times Service

CLEVELAND — At the age of 58, after making the playoffs 11 times as an assistant coach, Bud Carson was running his very own National Football League playoff team for the first time.

And, for perhaps the first time, the Browns are finally his. When they beat the Buffalo Bills in an American Conference divisional playoff game Saturday in Cleveland, it was a team for which Carson orchestrates the defense and makes his demands known on offense.

A month ago, Carson said, he was unhappy with the club's offense.

With a sore-armed Bernie Kosar at quarterback, he had few options because there wasn't much of a running game.

But under Carson's increased attention, the Browns won their final two games, barely captured the Central Division title and, now, appear to be a different club.

"I came here in a situation where I understood who the offensive coordinator was," Carson said.

"But it seemed to me I had to get more involved, and I have the last four weeks, doing the things you have to do as a head coach to determine your own destiny. It involves calling my own plays, and I expect to get even more involved."

From 1985 through 1988, Carson was the New York Jets' "genius" of the defense, acclaimed for his penchant for all-out pass rushing.

When Art Modell, the Browns' hands-on owner, gave him the opportunity no one else in the league had, to become a head coach, Modell made a stipulation: Marc Trestman would remain as offensive coordinator and quarterbacks coach.

Trestman is Kosar's guru; they first met at the University of Miami.

"I waited too long to get here just to be a defensive coordinator with a head coach's title," Carson said of his recently more expanded role.

These days, he attends meetings with the offense, suggests plays and

makes the critical offensive calls with two minutes remaining.

Asked whether there was tension between himself and the 33-year-old Trestman, Carson replied: "Heck, no. He's a heck of a guy. I think if I got closer to him in the beginning, we'd have had more success."

Success was a part of the Browns even before Carson arrived. They are the only AFC team to make the playoffs for five straight seasons; they have the best record in the conference the last three years, and they made the playoffs seven times under three coaches in the 1980s.

But they have never been to the Super Bowl. That is why Modell made the change to Carson, who replaced Marty Schottenheimer.

But it wasn't easy getting the Browns to this point. First, they lost Kevin Mack, their fullback, who was in prison most of the season on a drug-related conviction.

Then Kosar, who has mostly recovered from a bad elbow and a bad shoulder, went 20 straight quarters without throwing a touchdown pass. The Browns even fell into a four-game non-winning streak after going 7-3.

With four games left, the Browns were shut out by the Cincinnati Bengals in the wind of Cleveland, then lost in overtime to the Indianapolis Colts. With the division title at stake, though, they beat the Minnesota Vikings in overtime, with Mack rushing for 42 yards in the sudden-death period, then beat the Houston Oilers in the regular-season finale as Mack's 12 rushes gained 62 yards.

In the three losses before Mack's return, the Browns were held to under 100 yards rushing. In the three he played full-time, they went over 100 twice.

"Most defensive coaches are conservative, and I guess I am, too," said Carson. "I like having that big fullback."

Broncos Rally to Escape Upset by Steelers, 24-23

By Michael Wilbon

Washington Post Service

DENVER — The Pittsburgh Steelers were within minutes of extending their "Shock the World" tour in the American Football Conference's semifinal playoff game in Mile High Stadium.

But then a 71-yard drive behind quarterback John Elway, capped by Melvin Brister's one-yard touchdown plunge with 2:27 left to play, and Bobby Brister's fumble of a shotgun-formation snap 27 seconds later, allowed against the Denver Broncos to escape, 24-23, late Sunday.

That moved the Broncos (12-5) within one more victory of their third trip to the Super Bowl in four years. Next Sunday, in Denver, they will play the Cleveland Browns in the AFC title game, also for the third time in four years.

The wild-card Steelers (10-8) came into the AFC semifinal with the worst offense in the National Football League, statistically. But in recent weeks they had discovered a running game, and they put it to good use Sunday.

Merrill Hoge and Tim Worley rumbled through Denver's defense in the spirit of former Steelers Franco Harris and Rocky Bleier, and in the bargain opened the passing lanes for Brister.

The Broncos trailed by 10 points, and led for only the final 2:27 after Brister finished the nine-play, 71-yard drive with his second short touchdown run of the day, on third and goal.

The Steelers blew their final chance at an upset when Brister couldn't hold onto a low snap from his 20. Denver's safety, Dennis Smith, recovered, and the Steelers walked dejectedly to the sideline.

The Steelers had a new center, Chuck Lanza, in for that series in place of Dermontti Dawson, who the coaches said was tired.

"I said 'hut,' I turned away and the ball was snapped," Brister said. "I wasn't ready, the ball was low and I didn't get it."

The narrow escape wasn't lost on the Broncos, who knew they were fortunate to be playing for another week.

"They obviously didn't feel like they were 10-point underdogs," said defensive end Ron Holmes.

But the Steelers couldn't stop Elway and the Broncos' offense when it mattered most.

Hoge's 120 yards on 16 carries and Worley's 50 led the Steelers to a 17-10 lead with 26 seconds remaining in the first half. The Broncos were taking their best shots defensively, and Hoge was still running as Denver's Mark Jackson said, "like some kind of army tank."

But it was a bad omen for the Steelers when, in the final 26 seconds before intermission, Elway completed passes of 26 yards to Jackson and 15 yards to Ricky Nattiel, which put David Treadwell in position for a 43-yard field goal that made it 17-10.

Brister passed to Weegie Thompson for 23 yards to open the third quarter, but Worley, hit in a head-on collision by nose tackle Greg Kragen, lost a fumble and the fans in Mile High went into a foot-stomping frenzy.

One blown pass coverage later, Elway found a streaking Vance Johnson wide open in the middle of the end zone for a 37-yard touchdown that made it 17-17 two minutes into the second half.

The Steelers put together another impressive drive, but Denver's defense held them to Gary Anderson's 25-yard field goal, for a 20-17 lead.

When Elway overthrew tight end Clarence Kay on the next series, Brister succeeded on two third downs, and Anderson's 32-yard field goal made it 23-17 seven seconds into the fourth quarter.

"I think there was some doubt there," Jackson admitted.

Kragen, who like the rest of his teammates kept feeling the shoulders and knees of the hard-running Hoge, had a sick feeling. "I thought, 'Boy, this might be it for us. It can't end this way.'"

It didn't, even though the Broncos took a long time to get moving. One drive ended on third down when Elway was bounced on his head at the end of a run.

The Broncos' next possession — the one that won the game — started off with a first-and-19 at the 20 after a holding penalty. On the next play, Elway, who was 12 of 20 passing for 239 yards, found Jackson open for 18 yards. And with the Steelers expecting a run on the next play, Elway handed off to Bobby Humphrey (19 carries, 85 yards), who pitched the ball right back. Vance Johnson was wide open when Elway hit him at the Steelers' 26 for a 36-yard gain.

"That Elway sure can pull some things out of his hat in big games," said cornerback Dwayne Woodruff, the only remaining Steeler from the 1980 championship team.

Jackson said the Steelers had possession of the ball so much, 34 minutes to the Broncos' 26, "that there was a lot of pressure on us, a desperate feeling that we had to score."

From there, Humphrey carried four straight times, getting Denver to the two. They were the kind of crucial, inside-the-20 plays the Broncos hadn't run in past years. Then, on third and goal, the Denver coach, Dan Reeves, went to his short-yardage specialist, Bratton.

Reeves had worried before the game that an earlier 34-7 victory over the Steelers might have made his players too confident. And Jackson, asked if he ever expected to see the Steelers back here for a playoff game, said: "Never. No way. They looked like a team in a lot of turmoil, people calling for the coach's head and stuff."

Soon, they'll be calling for an encore. The Steelers had the same number of first downs as the Broncos, the same success at turning third downs into first downs (60 percent), more yards (404-364) and fewer sacks allowed (none).

So what was it the Steelers didn't do to win this game?

"They have to learn," said their assistant coach, Mean Joe Greene. "To grab the throat and never let it go."

NFL Playoff Picture

Wild-Card Games

NFC

• LOS ANGELES RAMS 21, PHILADELPHIA EAGLES 7

AFC

• PITTSBURGH STEELERS 26, HOUSTON OILERS 23 (OT)

Divisional Playoffs

NFC

• SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS 41, MINNESOTA VIKINGS 13

• LOS ANGELES RAMS 19, NEW YORK GIANTS 13 (OT)

AFC

• CLEVELAND BROWNS 34, BUFFALO BILLS 30

• DENVER BRONCOS 24, PITTSBURGH STEELERS 23

Conference Titles

Sunday, Jan. 14

NFC

• LOS ANGELES RAMS (13-5) at SAN FRANCISCO 49ERS (15-2), 5 P.M. EST

AFC

• CLEVELAND BROWNS (10-6) at DENVER BRONCOS (13-4), 1:30 P.M. EST

Super Bowl XXIV

Sunday, Jan. 28, 5 P.M.

EST, in New Orleans



John Elway, the Broncos' quarterback, got a lift when the Steelers' Bobby Brister, behind a new center, fumbled near the game's end.

SCOREBOARD

BASKETBALL

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

New York 22 9 718 2
Boston 21 10 715 3
Philadelphia 16 15 510 8
Washington 13 19 406 13
New Jersey 9 23 281 19
Miami 7 27 236 140

Central Division

Chicago 21 10 677 2
Detroit 20 11 674 3
Indiana 19 13 594 5
Atlanta 18 13 581 6
Milwaukee 17 14 548 7
Cleveland 13 17 433 12
Orlando 9 23 287 174

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

San Antonio 21 9 750 2
Utah 21 11 656 4
Denver 20 12 625 5
Dallas 18 15 576 8
Houston 14 18 438 9
Charlotte 7 21 239 14
Memphis 7 25 219 16

Pacific Division

LA Lakers 23 7 767 2
Portland 22 10 688 3
Phoenix 19 14 577 7
Seattle 14 19 500 8
Golden State 13 17 433 10
LA Clippers 12 18 408 11
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